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The Bombay Chronicle

REGD. NO. B. 1065

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VOL. XIX NO. 41- BOMBAY: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1931 PRICE ONE ANNA.

WE CAN CONTINUE THE TALK TO-MORROW.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Hopeful Outlook Of First Day's Parleys At Delhi

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE KNIGHTS PAVE THE WAY

The Fly In The Ointment.

SERVICES' INTERPRETATION OF "CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION."

(From Our Special Representative.):—

NEW DELHI, February 17.

"If well begun means half done" then Mahatma Gandhi's talks with Lord Irwin to-day which lasted four hours may be said to have been very satisfactory. Of course the way for these had been paved by yesterday's interview with the Viceroy which Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and two of his London Conference colleagues had. This enabled both the Viceroy and Gandhiji to proceed on certain preliminary understanding of what would be each others' point of view.

MAHATMA ABSORBED IN TALK.

Even the most confirmed optimist had not thought that the interview to-day would last longer than an hour and a half and it was because of this that Gandhiji had asked Dr. Sapru and his colleagues to meet him at Dr. Ansari's residence at 4 p.m. But Mahatma found himself so absorbed with talks that though four hours passed there was no conclusion and had it not been for the fact that his dinner time came he might be still sitting at the Viceregal Lodge.

THOSE POLICE EXCESSES.

I am told Dr. Sapru communicated this morning some important matter to Gandhiji relating probably to the Viceroy's attitude regarding the enquiry into the police excesses and that created a favourable impression in Congress circles. There were two schools of thought at Dr. Ansari's House, one which believed that the negotiations would end to-day and end in failure and other which held that these would continue to-morrow and probably day after and that the Government is in mood not to miss this opportunity to make peace. For the present, the latter view seems to prevail.

CONVINCING GANDHIJI.

I am told that if the preliminary condition regarding the evidence of the change of heart is found satisfactory by Gandhiji there would at once be a basis for an agreement on the constitutional question. The Viceroy would be prepared then to release political prisoners and restore property and restore conditions as prevailed before the Civil Disobedience Movement was launched.

THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT.

As for constitutional changes the Viceroy would make it possible for the Congress to come into fresh conference with a view to enable it to ask for a real measure of responsibility in Government. The only hitch that remains for the present is that the Viceroy may lay undue emphasis on what is interpreted by the Service circles as constitutional position and Parliamentary responsibility. These terms can be used to mean formality or definite handicap to the progress.

GANDHIJI CARRIES GOOD WISHES OF EVERYONE.

I should end by mentioning only one phase which struck all visitors to-day. When Gandhiji arrived and left the Viceroy's house there was hardly a Secretariat man or an employee in the Viceroy's House who had not turned to see him or had not waited abnormal hours to have another look at him. That showed that just where the Governmental authority was enshrined in all its glory there too throbbed hearts as responsive to the spiritual messageof Gandhiji as anywhere else and that his mission to-day had the good-wishes of every Indian.

WE CAN CONTINUE THE TALK TO-MORROW."

Gandhiji Leaves Viceroy's House After Interview

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

The Irwin—Gandhi conversations began at 2-30 p.m. and lasted till, 6-10 p.m.

Mahatma Gandhi interviewed by the Associated Press at the Viceroy's House at the end of to-day's talk said, "We can continue the talk to-morrow". Bidding a hasty good-bye he said, "I cannot starve myself by staying any longer".

RACE BETWEEN CAR AND SUN

Now began a race between his car and the setting sun to enable him to reach in time Dr. Ansari's residence where Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Sastri and Mr. M. R. Jayakar had been waiting for two hours to meet him. A large crowd greeted him on return. Mahatma Gandhi looked cheerful as a result of the frank talk and waved his salutation to the crowd—A. P.

A More Hopeful Outlook Envisaged

NEW DELHI, February 17.

The Gandhi-Sapru talks preliminary to the Gandhi-Irwin meeting lasted twenty-five minutes and were intended to convey the purport of the interview the peace-makers had with the Viceroy yesterday.

It is understood that these talks led to a hopeful feeling particularly in respect of Mahatma Gandhi's plea for an enquiry into police excesses which has been one of the chief obstacles hitherto felt in the way of an understanding.

Mahatma Gandhi meets the Viceroy at 2-45 o'clock this afternoon and has asked Messrs. Sapru, Jayakar and Sastri to meet him at four in the afternoon at Dr. Ansari's residence.

Mahatma Gandhi had intended to walk four miles to reach the Viceregal Lodge in order to warm himself against the Delhi cold, but he was persuaded to use a motor car.—A. P.

THE TRINITY DISCUSSES SITUATION

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

Mahatma Gandhi is seeing the Viceroy at 2-30 P.M. to-day. As I book this message Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Messrs Sastri and Jayakar are discussing with Gandhiji and Sjt. Rajagopalachari at Dr. Ansari's residence, so that Gandhiji might be fully armed with all the points on which Nationalist India feels that an agreement should be arrived at as a preliminary to truce, if that should result at all.

GANDHIJI HOPEFUL

MAHATMA IN A NICE FRAME OF MIND.

(From Our Special Representative.):—

NEW DELHI, February 17.

I met Mr. Rajagopalachariar, who is Gandhiji's right hand man in the absence of other members of the Working Committee. He had a brief talk with Gandhiji and in reply to my enquiry said, "Mahatmaji has come back from the Viceroy's house in a nice frame of mind and judging by the long conversation I infer that it is proceeding on hopeful lines but there should be no speculation in the interest of the country at large."

GANDHIJI PRAYS.

Gandhiji held a prayer at Dr. Ansari's house in the evening when hundred ladies dressed in

(Continued on page 7.)

IS IT PEACE OR WAR ?

—:o:—

Fateful Issues Hang In Balance

MAHATMAJI, ARBITER OF INDIA'S DESTINY

ALLAHABAD, Feb. 17.

Mrs. Naidu, interviewed prior to her departure for Hyderabad, said:—

"Not India alone but the entire world awaits in poignant suspense the eminent and final word of peace or war to fall from the lips of Mahatma Gandhi. For, by what seems a paradox without parallel in modern history, this frail and lowly saint, whose spiritual genius is at once so meek and so militant, so tender and so terrible in grace and power, speaks not merely as the supreme interpretor of India's political ideals, but also to-day as almost the sole arbiter of her immediate political destiny. Whether it be that he will turn his sword into a lily or his lily into a sword, the nation, in whose name he speaks, will affirm and fulfil his choice."—A. P.

MAHATMAJI SUING FOR PEACE ?

—:o:—

Detroit Indian's Perturbed

DETRIOT, Feb. 15.

The Detriot Indians have cabled the following message to the "Bombay Chronicle":—

American Newspapers say that "Mahatmaji is suing for peace." But India is not yet dead. Let the Government approach the Congress for peace. We are behind the Independence Fight.

AN OPTIMIST AND LOVER OF PEACE"

—:o:—

LONDON, Feb. 17.

The "Daily Herald" this morning carries a cable "From Mahatma Gandhi" in which Gandhiji says that he is an optimist and a lover of peace and is therefore making every effort to find, if there is any way, whereby cooperation can be offered.—Reuter.

ENGLAND FACED WITH GENERAL ELECTION

Tories Ask For A Debate On India

A NUMBER OF BY-ELECTIONS.

LONDON, Feb. 17.

The India Committee of the Conservative Party in the House of Commons has decided to ask for two days for discussion on India.

The country is faced with almost unprecedented situation of miniature general election. Seven by-elections are progressing or pending.

The by-election at East Islington is due to death of the Labourite Doctor Ethel Benthem. Candidates are Mrs. Leah Manning (Labour) Miss Thelma Cazalet (Conssrvative) Major Crawford (Liberal) and Brigadier Critchley (Empire Crusader). Polling is fixed for Thursday. All parties concede that contest is likely to be close one.

The vacancy at Fareham is due to the retirement of Sir John Davidson. The candidates are ex-Attorney General Sir Thomas Inskip (Conservative), Cross (Liberal) and Pearson (Labour). Poling is on Friday.

A by-election has been occasioned at Salisbury owing to the retirement of Mr. Hugh Morrison and from Pantypridd owing to resignation of Mr. Mardy Jones. The by-elections at St. Georges, Wesminster and Fermanagh, Tyrotie, owing to the deaths of the sitting members complete list.—Reuter.

World Cycle Tourists At Ahmedabad.

—:o:—

AHMEDABAD, February 16.
(BY MAIL.)

Two world cycle tourists Messrs. Shri Krishna Barq and Pearay Lall Awasthi have arrived here after touring through Gujarat and Rajputana. They intend to proceed to Kathiawar and Cutch from where they will proceed to Karachi to attend the Congress session. They are put up with the President of the Municipality Mr. G. V. Mavlanker, pleader.—A. P.

Maulvi Mohamed Yakub Performs A Somersault

SPEAKS AGAINST THE AMENDING OF SECTION 144.

GAYA PRASAD'S BILL SENT FOR CIRCULATION.

Govt. Keep Mum On Questions About Bhagatsingh

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

In the Legislative Assembly today, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh's Bill to amend Section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was discussed for another two hours and the Assembly, by 51 votes against 50 carried the dilatory motion of Mr. Aniklesariah for circulation, which was supported by the Government.—A. P.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

Mr. B. R. Puri put a short notice question regarding the rejection of the Bhagat Singh appeal by the Privy Council and whether the Government proposed to delay the execution.

Sir James Crerar said that the Government's policy was declared by Sir George Rainy on the 5th February. The Government would examine, on their intrinsic merits any petition for mercy which any convicted persons might present.

WHAT KABIRUDDIN WANTED TO KNOW.

Mr. Kabiruddin Ahmed: Will the Government, in view of the opinion expressed by some lawyers, that the execution can only be ordered by the Tribunal which passed the death sentence, delay the execution?

No Answer was given.

Mr. Kabiruddin Ahmed:—Will the Government, for their own safety, delay the execution, in view of the fact that responsibility for such action will lie on them and will they consult the Law Member or take other legal opinion?

CRERAR KEEPS MUM.

Sir James Crerar said that he could not add to his answer.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Will the Government state what date has been fixed for the execution?

Sir James Crerar: I cannot add to my reply.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Will they delay the execution in view of the numerous petitions sent to the Government?

Sir James Crerar: I regret again that I cannot add to my reply.—

The Council of State heard today Mr. T. G. Russell's speech in delivering the railway budget which lasted 50 minutes. It was only at the conclusion of his speech that Mr. Russell was cheered. Sir Dinshaw Wacha, Raja Bijoy Singh and Mr. Russell were sworn in as members.

The President read the Governor-General's message, fixing February 21 for general discussion of the railway budget.

TO SUPPLEMENT CR. PROCEDURE AMENDMENT ACT.

Mr. Emerson, the Home Secretary, then moved the consideration of the Bill to supplement the Criminal Procedure (Punjab) Amendment Act of 1930, as passed by the Assembly. He explained the provisions of the Bill, which, he emphasised, were intended solely for the protection of convicted persons, by providing for appeal to the High Court and for submission to the High Court, for the confirmation of any sentence of death passed by the Commissioners. The Bill, he added, imposed no penalties, and it was moved merely in accordance with the assurance given in the Punjab Legislative Council by the representative of the Punjab Government, with the full authority of the Government of India. Mr. Emerson remindtd the House that the Bill, when introduced in the Punjab Legislative Council, was passed in substantial form and received the support of a majority of the Council and therefore it had the support of the people of the Punjab.

BILL PASSES.

No member spoke either in the consideration stage or at the third reading and without any further speeches the Bill was passed.

On the motion of the Education Secretary, the House agreed to elect four members to the Standing Committee on Emigration. The House, before adjourning till to-morrow, elected three members out of four nominated to serve on the Standing Committee on Roads. The ballot resulted in the election of Mr. Hussain Imam, Mr. Miller and Mr. S. C. Ghose Mullick and the elimination of Mr. Ramsaran Das.—A. P.

AMENDING SECTION 144.

When discussion was resumed on Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh's Bill to amend Section 144, Cr. P. C., Moulvi Mohamed Yakub, opposing the motion, said that after hearing the speeches he had come to the conclusion that it would not be discreet to support the measure. Section 144 was meant for taking prompt action in cases of emergency and if the amendment moved by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh was accepted by the House it would take away the very essence of that section.

Mr. Yakub said that they often charged the Government with ignoring public opinion but the mover of the Bill, in pressing the motion was committing the same mistake. The speaker felt that it would not be wise to weaken the hands of their own countrymen who would shortly be entrusted with the Government of India.

WORKING UP FOR OFFICIAL CHEERS.

The present time, also was very inopportune, for Civil Disobedience was the declared policy of the Congress and respect for law had been shaken to the foundations. Mr. Yakub said that picketing and processions were never peaceful. They often led to violence, whether in active form as in Benares, or in passive form. In this connection he referred to demand of Mahatma Gandhi for an enquiry into police excesses in India, and said that it would be also well for Mahatma Gandhi to institute an inquiry into the conduct of Congress volunteers. (Official Benches Applause). That would show that only one side was to to blame.

Mr. Bagat Ram Puri said that the object of legislation was to protect the life and liberty of people and not to protect law and order, as Mr. Yakub had stated.

Mr. Arthur Moore interjected: What is the difference?

"LEGALISING ILLEGALITY."

Mr. Puri said that there might be occasions when it might become necessary for the authorities to deprive a man of his ordinary civil liberties but that was only in extreme cases and for a temporary period only. That itself showed that this provision of the law was to legalise illegality. Mr. Puri quoted High Court Rulings in favour of the demand that a Magistrate should specify reasons for making an order and that they should be for very short periods only and concluded by affirming that the language of Section 144 was so loose and so wide that

(Continued on page 7.)

FROM ALLAHABAD TO DELHI.

Mahatma Gandhi "I am open to Conviction".
Sapru (aside) "No hope of Conversion".
Jayakar "I have told him how they in London noted what we said"
Sapru "Hope Irwin succeeds where we have failed."

NON-VIOLENCE IS OUR SHEET ANCHOR.

CLASSIFIED ADVTS.

Fill up your WANTS here on payment of

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For First Sixteen Words

ONE ANNA
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A 2534

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M W5.

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C R4343

TO BE LET at Tardeo Road (near Chikalwadi) FLATS, one drawing room, two bed rooms, one dining room and kitchen. Rent ranging from Rs. 80/- to 95/-. Apply DHARAMSI, Solicitor, 23 Medows Street, Fort, Bombay Tyauji House, Chowpatty Seaface.
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IF YOU WANT to earn Rs. 750 monthly, consult Prof. SHROFF, New York Cotton Specialist. One sure Closing Figure given daily. Opposite "Pigeon Stand," 5, Mint Road, Fort, Bombay, near G.P.O.
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THE BHARAT SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the BHARAT SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 9/19, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of February, 1931, at 4-30 p.m. (S. T.), when the sub-joined Resolutions will be proposed.

1. "That the Company do buy 500 fully paid shares bearing No. 18501 to 19000 at Rs. 155 per share and that the Capital of the Company be reduced by cancelling such shares from Rs. 50,00,000 to Rs. 48,75,000."

2. "That the Capital of the Company be further reduced from Rs. 48,75,000 as resolved by the first resolution to Rs. 32,75,000 (divided into 65,500 shares of Rs. 50 each by (a) extinguishing the liability in respect of uncalled capital to the extent of Rs. 100 per share on each of the 16,000 shares of the Company already issued on which Rs. 150 have been paid up and (b) issuing three shares of Rs. 50 each to each holder of a share of Rs. 150 and five shares of Rs. 50 each to each holder of a share of Rs. 250)."

3. "The clauses in the Memorandum and Articles relating to Capital be modified to give effect to the first and second resolutions."

4. "That Article 104 be amended by adding after the words 'One vote' the words 'for every 3 shares of Rs. 50 eadh' and inserting the words 'Every three shares' in place of 'Every share'."

5. "That the qualification of a Director other than the Ex. Officio Directors shall be his holding at least 60 shares in the Company registered in his name and that Article 116 be amended accordingly."

Should the abovementioned Resolutions be passed by the requisite majority they will be submitted for confirmation as special Resolutions to a further Extra-ordinary General Meeting and such meeting will be held on Thursday the 5th day of March, 1931, at the same time and place for the purposes of considering and if thought fit confirming such resolutions as special resolutions.

By Order,
PURSHOTAM GOVINDJEE & CO.,
Managing Agents.

Dated this 31st day of January 1931.
2430

S. S. TOTTORI MARU."

CONSIGNEES of cargo per the above steamer are hereby informed of her arrival on 17th instant from Japan via way-ports and requested to send in their Bills of Lading to this Office for counter-signature. No survey on damaged cargo will be held unless a written application is received by us within seven days from the date of discharge and prior to removal of goods from the Landing Shed.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Tender.

NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED for the right of collecting Tolls on the undermentioned Roads and Ferries:—

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(2) Saki-Vehar Road Toll.
(3) Borivli-Gorai Ferry.
(4) Marwa-Manori Ferry.
(5) Versowa-Madh-Darivli Ferry.

The Tenders will be received by the President, District Local Board, Bombay Suburban District, up to 10th March, 1931, 3 p.m. The Board does not bind itself to accept the highest or any Tender. Ten per cent. of the tendered amount must accompany the tender. Any information required can be obtained in the President's Office, especially as regards the rates of tolls to be levied.
2523

Public Notices.

THE MOOLJI HARIDAS MILLS, LIMITED.

(In Voluntary Liquidation.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in pursuance of Section 217 of the Indian Companies' Act, 1913, that a GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the abovenamed Company will be held at the HENSHAW BUILDING, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay, on FRIDAY, the 20th day of March, 1931, at 4 p.m. in the afternoon, for the purpose of passing an account laid before them showing the manner in which the winding up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Liquidators, and also for determining by Extraordinary Resolution the manner in which the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the Liquidators thereof shall be disposed of.

Dated this 18th day of February, 1931.

MOOLJI HARIDAS,
A. D. MAVJI,
Liquidators.
2545

NOTICE

My wife, Mrs. M. HOLLAND, having left my protection, I hereby declare that I will not be responsible for any debts incurred by her.

G. W. HOLLAND.
R4374

Legal Notices.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Partnership which subsisted between our client Diwan Bahadur KESRISINGH CHANDMAL, of Bombay, Rutlam and Kotah, and Mr. BHAICHAND RUPCHAND DOSHI, of Bombay, carrying on the business of import and export of piece-goods and yarn in the name of our client, that is, Diwan Bahadur Kesrisingh Chandmal, has been DISSOLVED.

Any person making any payment to or dealing with the said Mr. Bhaichand Rupchand Doshi in any matter connected with the said Partnership will do so at his own risk.

Dated this 16th day of February, 1931.

DAPHTARY FERREIRA & DIVAN,
Attorneys for Diwan Bahadur Kesrising Chandmal.
2546

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

GEORGE V. by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions, beyond **the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.**

Petition for Letters of Administration of the property and credits of THAKAR RATANSI KANJI alias RUTTONSEY KANJI alias RUTTANSEY KANJI alias RATANSEY KANJI alias RATANSHI KANJI, a Cloth Merchant, late of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant ..... Deceased

Bai KESERBAI, widow of the deceased abovenamed, of Bombay, Hindu Inhabitant, residing at Dadyseth Agiary Lane, without the Fort of Bombay, for the use and benefit of the minor Jairaj Ratansi under the Judge's Order dated 14th day of November, 1930, and limited to the period of his minority ..... Petitioner

All persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the abovenamed deceased are hereby cited to come and see the Proceedings, if they think fit, before the Grant of Letters of Administration.

Witness SIR JOHN WILLIAM FISHER BEAUMONT, KNIGHT Chief Justice at Bombay, aforesaid this Tenth day of February, in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and thirty first and in the Twenty-first year of our Reign.

Seal of the High Court at Bombay.

R. B. PATEL
Prothonotary and Senior Master.

H. A VAKIL

10th day of February, 1931.
Messrs. SHAMRAO MUNOCHEHER & HIRALAL,
Petitioner's Attorneys.
2547

Auction Sales.

GANDHI AND CO.

SALE THIS DAY AT 4-30 P. M. (S. T.)

AUCTION SALE OF A VALUABLE PROPERTY AT SOOKLAJEE STREET.

Messrs. GANDHI & CO., Auctioneers will, under instructions from Messrs. Thakordas Daru Hemany and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagees and on account and at the risk of Ali Haji Gulamhussein, the Mortgagor in pursuance of the Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, dated the 19th November, 1923 sell by Public Auction, the undermentioned Property on WEDNESDAY, the 18th February, 1931, at 4-30 P. M. (S. T.) on the premises.

ALL that piece of Government Leasehold Land with dwelling house standing thereon lying and being at Khursetji Sooklajee Street, Bombay, in the Registration Sub-District of Bombay containing 155 square yards bearing Collector's New No. 16936, and New Survey No. 7/5745, and Cadastral Survey No. 9 of Byculla Division and assessed by the Municipal Collector of Assessment under E Ward No. 837 and Street No. 9.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale please apply to Messrs. Thakordas Daru Hemany and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagees, at their Office at No. 65, Esplanade Road, Fort, or to the undersigned.

GANDHI & CO.

Messrs. BENNETT & Co.

GRAND AUCTION SALE OF VERY VALUABLE JACOBEAN AND PLAIN FURNITURE BY ROBERTS AND ARMY AND NAVY, COTTAGE PIANO, RICH GLASS CROCKERY AND SILVERWARE BABY'S PRAM, CRYSTAL RADIO SET, ETC., ETC.

Messrs. BENNETT & CO., are instructed to sell by Public Auction on SUNDAY, the 22nd instant at 10-30 A. M. (S. T.) at "Sea Foam" opp: Baptist Church, Colaba, very valuable and handsome made-to-order household Jacobean Furniture of complete dining, drawing and bed-rooms all to match such as dining table, sideboard, wine-cupboard, chairs, dinner waggon, full-size Chesterfield suites, full iron-frame cottage Piano by Hilse Berlin, Writing bureau, Show cases, Bedsteads, Jacobean Almirahs, dressing tables, chevals, ornaments Baby's Pram and toy-car, etc., etc.

The property of Eng: Lt. W. F. Ellis, R. I. M. Proceeding home and others.

Catalogues will be published and property on view 3 days before the sale.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE GOLD AND PEARL ORNAMENTS.

Under instructions from Messrs. Motichand and Devidas, Attorneys for Mr. Dossabhai Maganlal and his wife Jaumatibai and on account and risk of Messrs. Charandas Vassanji and Ranchhoddas Vassanji, Messrs. BENNETT & CO. will, on THURSDAY, the 26th instant at 3 P. M. (S. T.) sell by Public Auction at their Rooms:—

Ornaments such as pearl and diamond necklace, pearl bangles, vanks, chheda, raifuls, kadas, rings hars, ponchis, etc., Gold ramnavmi, vanks, rings, kadas, ponchis, hars, etc., etc.

The above will be on view 2 days before the sale.

BENNETT & CO.

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Globe Cinema

SANDHURST ROAD.

TO-NIGHT: 5-15, 7, 8-45 and 10-30 P. M.

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IN
THE UNCONQUERED

NEXT SATURDAY
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MAURICE CHEVALIER
IN
"INNOCENTS OF PARIS."

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CINEMA.

(Lamington Road)

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Featuring famous Stars: Miss LAXMI and MASTER GANPAT BAKRE.

It is a thrilling mystery drama wherein the Hero PRATAP SINGH defies the Tocsin single-handed and wins through by sheer valour and audacity.

DAILY (4) Four Shows at 5, 7, 9 and 11 P. M.

EXTRA SHOW on Saturday, Sunday and Holiday and Amas at 3 P. M.

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The Excelsior

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AND

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THE HOME & LOAN CORPORATION, Ltd.

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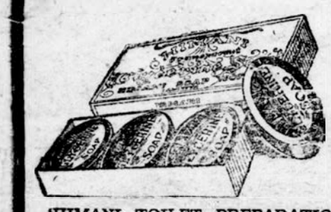

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BOMBAY BRANCH OFFICE:
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...rt, Bombay.

World's Cotton Situation.

INDO-AMERICAN PARITY WILL WIDEN.

Sentimental Effect On Indian Cotton Prices.

MESSRS. RODOCANACHI & CO.'S VIEWS

Bombay, Feb. 10.

THE AMERICAN MARKET.

The steady tone which America developed towards the end of last month was maintained and values appreciated further showing a net advance of 40 points. There was hardly any material improvement in the Trade situation during the interval nor was the Lancashire dead-lock conducive to a re establishment of confidence, but absence of important selling and a consequent scarcity of Contracts prevented the market from reacting. Towards the close a distinct change in the feeling for the better is in evidence, and a material recovery in the stock markets coupled with revival in hopes of an early Lancashire settlement have added further tone to the market.

The preliminary weather forecast for the New Season's sowings is not so far encouraging, but it is not likely to have any material effect upon next year's prospects as there is ample time yet for the weather to take a turn for the better. In fact we shall know nothing concrete bout it until the middle of next month when the first forecasts regarding the crop are available. Meanwhile we confirm our opinion that unless values rise, a material reduction in the area sown should be the natural outcome of the present low prices.

INDO-AMERICAN PARITY.

The Indo-American parity narrowed considerably during the interval and some straddle selling in India was reported as a consequence. Straddle sales of this kind are of course bullish operations and constitute another evidence of the better feeling which prevails at present. Our opinion is that if, as we expect, the general market advances, the Indo-American parity will widen.

INDIAN COTTON.

The Indian Market: Better demand from the Far East and a change in the political atmosphere in this Country lent further tone to our market and values advanced sharply and beyond the point warranted by overseas advices. In the ordinary way a reaction should be looked for especially in view of the lack of Trade support. But when a commodity rules, as Indian cotton does at present, below its cost of production it is apt to respond more to sentiment than to the hard and fast laws of supply and demand, and the course of our market during the last few days is a typical illustration of this.

Another steadying factor at the present moment is the large option interest which has accumulated in the last 4 months at slender margins, against which Option Dealers must operate in the forward market. As therefore they sold against their options when a feeling of pessimism prevailed, so they must protect their operations by buying now when the outlook appears brighter.

INDIAN CROP.

The Crops: The Bengal and Punjab-American crops are practically over and stocks are now stored at the Ports It is estimated that 10 to 15 per cent. of the crop is still stored in up-country centres and is kept off the market until a better opportunity of selling presents itself. The Oomra crop is also on the decline and the stock in Bombay is as a consequence increasing. The Broach and Surti crops have just begun to move. We have examined a full range of representative samples and the crop appears to be above average in point of both class and spinning value. Our Mill friends confirm this and the natural outcome should be a brisk demand for these styles especially as they have the advantage of white colour and in comparison to Southerns are cheap. Although these styles have lately appreciated considerably we think that they are still cheap and we confirm the opinion we expressed some time ago that our Mills' friends should fulfil forthwith at least a part of their requirements.

The Southern Crops continue doing well and arrivals are expected to be normal.

SPOT COTTON.

The Ready Market was quiet but steady and towards the close displayed a fair amount of activity, Exporters being the chief buyers for Berar and C. P. Better qualities of Bengal have become scarce, and as this style is still out of parity with offerings in Karachi it remains at present neglected.

In the Oomra range a small proportion of nice Khandish is still available whilst fair quantities of better grade Berar and C. P. are still to be had. A full range of qualities in Mathia is available, but the stock of Moglai is disappointing. Stapled Nanded styles are hardly available as they have all along been eagerly sought after by Mills and all parcels are taken up as soon as they arrive.

The Inter-growth parity: In the early part of the month the Oomra and Bengal contracts developed remarkable strength on account of extensive short covering on the part of Jobbers and Speculators who had gone short counting on a collapse of these positions consequent upon the weight of arrivals. The subsequent slump in the general market caused ryots to withhold arrivals, and the pressure having been thus relieved the Trade turned to Bombay for the fulfilment of some of their requirements adding tone to the market and causing a stampede amongst shorts. Thereafter these contracts settled down to more reasonable levels which we expect will be maintained unless the general level of prices undergone a material change.

THE STATISTICAL POSITION.

There is hardly any change in the Statistical position since we wrote our last Report, but the strength we pointed out is still in evidence and we shall not be surprised to see it become even stronger as the Season advances and supplies are taken up by the Trade. A point which we wish to bring to the notice of our [illegible] is that the estim... ...make of Europe and the Far East of Indian cotton this year influenced by the general depression stands at the comparatively low figure of 3,450,000 bales versus actual last year 3,900,000 bales. Any improvement in the situation should however cause the actual takings to increase for it is quite likely that the moment a veering of any duration occurs in the general feeling and consumers give more thought to the unprecedented cheapness of Indian cotton they may abandon their hand to mouth policy and broaden their purchases.

THE EGYPTIAN MARKET.

The Egyptian Market marked a sharp advance during the month. A considerable business was reported from all quarters and at the time of writing the market is strong with an upward tendency.

The Offtake: We make the offtake during the month as follows:—

	For the month of January.	Up to-date.
Oomras	107,000	336,000
Broach	3,000	46,000
Bengals	12,000	40,000
Sundries	2,000	10,000
	124,000	432,000
Last month	51,000	308,000
January last year	34,000	524,000

The distribution being:—

Leading Exporters	76,000	271,000
Mills	16,000	58,000
Other Buyers	32,000	103,000
	124,000	432,000

The Unsold Stock: The following is our estimate of the unsold stock on February 1st, 1931:—

Oomras:		
C. P. No. I & II	77,000	
Berar	72,000	
Khandish Mathia	60,000	
Moglai C. I.	82,000	
		291,000
Bengals:		
S Punjab, Rajputana	23,000	
U. P.	15,000	
		38,000
Broach Surti		6,000
Dhollera		7,000
P American		6,000
Western Comptah		4,000
Karangani Cambodia		1,000
African		6,000
		359,000
Vs. a month ago		225,000
Same time last year		611,000

The estimated stock in Bombay on the same date being:—

Unsold	359,000
With Exporters	280,000
With Mills	160,000
Sold but not weighed	15,000
	814,000
Vs. a month ago	407,000
Same time last year	1,206,000

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said housewives from all over India

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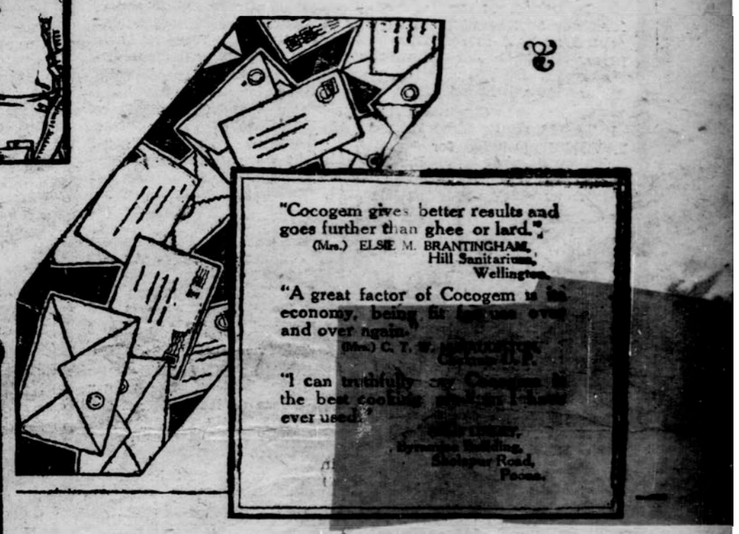
And to these we would add a word of our own:... Unlike adulterated bazaar ghees, Cocogem is absolutely pure and wholesome. Sold only in hermetically sealed tins—untouched by hand—tasteless and odourless.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(Mrs.) ELSE M. BRANTINGHAM,
Hill Sanitarium,
Wellington.
"A great factor of Cocogem is its economy, being fit for frying over and over again."
"I can truthfully say Cocogem is the best cooking [illegible] ever used."

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—:o:—

Tory Attempts To Whittle Down R. T, C Decisions

"A Londoner" writes to "Liberty" from London under date January 30:—

During the week-end there were persistent suggestions and anticipations of a Governmental crisis over the Trades Disputes Bill. Such talks will no doubt continue, but it is very unlikely that the Government will be turned out for months yet. The Tories will continue to put the pressure in order that the Liberals may successfully water down all Government proposals in which there are any socialistic tendencies. Then there is yet the unsolved crisis in India. However much the Tories may criticise the Government, they know fully well that Labour in office is the best possible insurance against any possible revulsion of public feeling over measures adopted by the Government in India. The belief is that India will continue to dominate British politics for considerable time yet Labour must however be used to turn the worst corner. Mr. Baldwin's blessing of the Round Table proposals do not come as a surprise to anybody coversant with the under-currents of politics in Westminister. The Tories here realised that the only way to keep India within the Empire is to follow the policy laid down by Montague. They must however concentrate on that part of Montagu's declaration which keeps to British Parliament the final authority to determine the stages and the manner of any progress. This is where our Indian Liberals fail to see that the British have only changed their language in order to pursue the old policy more effectively.

The difference between the various sections of British political parties over the Indian problem is more in the method of expressing their views than in any the execution of any concrete policy. What I mean is this. For example many members of the Conservative party agree with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Churchill, but where they do differ from Churchill is about the expediency of expressing them now when Mr. MacDonald in concurrence with Mr. Baldwin is engaged in the momentous task of restoring peace in India by sweet words. Mr. Churchill seems to think that the Government must not even make the least show of surrender to the Indian Congress, even though that surrender may be in words. Mr. Churchill thinks that this is not going to restore peace in India, and the reaction which will follow will result in worse cataclysm than which the Government is faced with now. Churchill believes in putting down by force the present movement and then making whatever concessions the Government may think best. As the political correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" observes "I discussed the subject of Mr. Churchill's declaration with a number of Conservatives last night and found that there was a very general opinion that if the feeling of the party were tested a great measure of agreement with his views would be discovered. The chief doubt expressed was whether the time chosen for such a declaration was opportune, seeing that as yet only the fringe of the problem has been touched, and some years must elapse before Parliament can be called upon to face the task of framing a new constitution for India."

THE I. L. P'ERS.

Amongst the Labour members there will also be found divergence as to what will restore peace in India, but a clear analysis will show that there is no effective difference in policy. For example the left-wing of the part headed by Maxton continually express their sympathy with the Congress point of view, but when it comes to any action they are in line with the party policy. There was an amendment to reduce the salary of the Secretary of State for India, but all these left Labour M. P.'s found themselves completely satisfied with Benn's explanation and therefore they withdrew their threat of dividing the House on the issue. Yet let it be realised that on several other issues these Labour M. P.'s have gone into anti-government lobby notwithstanding the orders of the party whip. Why? Because all these M. P.'s had some constituents to placate. Not so much political principle, but the pressure of the demos. For, who can say that the question of India is less important than any of these minor issues. Yet the Indians are constantly reminded of their I. L. P. friends. No one denies that even differences of opinion amongst your enemies have some value in an ultimate sense; but one must be careful in giving their professed friendship its real valuation. Otherwise once again there will be disillusionment Let the Indians exploit the sentiments expressed by the I. L. P'ers, but let it be constantly borne in mind that when it comes to a question of action these Labourites will not have the courage to do anything against their party decision. Some of these look up to the Indian press and public to earn cheap plaudits; it helps them in their political career at home. While exploiting these Labour M. P.'s to propagate the Congress point of view, the Indian press must however be careful not to give the impression of these people being in the confidence and trust of the Indian public. When I hear of expression "the friend of India" which in their exuberance some of the sub-editors attach to some of the Labour M. P.'s they hardly realise that the nation will have to pay dearly for such indiscriminate use of the expression. These Labour M. P.'s are bound ultimately to use this though unconsciously to save their party from disaster on India. They will come out at critical moment and advise the Indian leaders not to be unreasonable even though they may realise what the Indian leaders are demanding to be their natural rights. The British public will then be told by the Tories what fanatics the Indians are and their policy for a strong hand will then receive universal approval.

CHURCHILL AND SIMON.

Coming now to Churchill Baldwin correspondence one can see how the Tories are going to sabotage the open declaration of their party leaders. Churchill had to leave the shadow cabinet so that he could have a free hand for his propaganda. This will enable the National leaders of all parties to point out to the Indians that they must be pleased with what they can offer in view of the rising public opinion against what they have offered already. It will be a mistake, in say that the whole thing is deliberately planned, but that does not mean the leaders will not use such volume of diehard opinion in getting the Indian to be contented with what they have already been offered. That the Tories will fight tooth and nail any real measure of self-government to India is definitely certain. Only they will imitate the socialists in expressing fine sentiments. The "Morning Post" has always been opposed to the Round Table Conference, but up till now it has been a loyal, steady and consistent supporter of Mr. Baldwin. The latter however will find to his surprise how his organ is on the point of deserting him on the question of India. "The failure in the first duties of all government was present in our mind in considering the recent debate on India. Mr. Baldwin no doubt feels that he has a duty to support Lord Irwin. whom he appointed; but he has also a duty to support the Simon Commission, for the appointment of which he was also responsible, and the plain fact is that the Simon Commission was thrown over because it did not go far enough to please the law-breakers. It is impossible to believe —as Mr. Baldwin suggested— that the Commission was thrown over because of the intervention of the Princes and the new idea of a federal system, since the Simon Commission was thrown over before that intervention took place." It will however be found that if the present draft terms are accepted, the opposition will only continue until the passing of the bill, because the "Morning Post" knows as much as the Tories and the Labourites that the Round Table Conference has not offered any real responsibility.

Regarding the claim which some of our Labour "sympathisers" making that under a Tory regime the policy of repression would have been much more intensive and more severe, let us have the opinion of the Tory organ once again:

"The Prime Minister on Monday had a great deal to say about "repression" as an alternative to the new policy; but as a matter of fact there has been more repression under the and partial administration of Lord Irwin than under any of his predecessors. There are at present many thousand political prisoners in the Indian gaols, and there have been we do not know how many edicts and proclamations. The case of Gandhi is a case in point; he was allowed to spread sedition for six months; he was then arrested under an obsolete law and kept in prison without trial."

At present the position can be summed up like this. The Labour Government and the Tory opposition will not mind making any concession in sentimental expression even if that may displease some of the crusted diehards who may misname it as surrender so long they can by that means make the Congress leaders give up their present campaign of civil disobedience, All of them know fully well that everything they want can be got through that beautiful self-preserver "safeguards" without being accused of having gone back on their words. They count on the right-wing elements in the Congress to show a spirit of defeatism and thus bring about their desired consummation.

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Certificate From:

Consulate-General of the Republic of China

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CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR INDIA.

Calcutta, India, 11th November 1930.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

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C. F. Luo. *Consul-General*

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WANTED AGENTS IN UPCOUNTRY.

THE MAHARASHTRA HIGH SCHOOL

—:o:—

Appeal For Help.

A meeting of the friends, sympathisers and well wishers of the Maharashtra High School, was held on the 13th inst. at the residence of Dr. H. J. Bhabha to consider the formation of a Board of Management for the School. Dr. H. J. Bhabha was voted to the chair.

Prof. V. N. Hate then read an account of the management of the School till now and Mr. N. M. Kale who is the founder and the Principal of the School, spoke a few words on the origin. history and conduct of the School, spoke a few words on the origin, history and conduct of the School from 1926. He graphically described the struggling efforts he and his colleagues the late Mr. V. V. Pandit and Mr. B. P. Phatak, had to make in starting the School and in making it a success. It was only at tremendously great personal sacrifices that he and his Assistants were able to develop the Institution.

Rao Bahadur S. K. Bole, then proposed a resolution appointing the Members of the Provisional Board of Management.

With a view to frame Rules and Regulations for the management of the School, Dr. Kalyandas J. Desai proposed the appointment of a small committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. J. Bhabha.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

The Maharashtra High School owes its origin to the efforts of Mr. Nagesh Mahadeo Kale who perceiving the great need of a School in the Mill area of Bombay founded at Lower Parel the Maharashtra High School on the 10th of March 1926; it aims at the spread of Education among the children of Mill labourers and among other educationally backward classes. He has conducted it for the last five years at great sacrifice and has brought education to the doors of Labourers.

The present financial position of the School is that it has to pay a debt of Rs. 3,000 and that the rent for some months is in arrears, which is gradually being paid. Against these encumbrances, the School has invested more than Rs. 8,000 in Furniture Library Books, Science Apparatus, etc., which form the Property of the School and the present valuation of the Assets cannot be less than Rs. 5,000.

During the long continued Strikes the School lost more than Rs. 2,500 by way of arrears of fees which were never realised.

It will be seen that the School is more or less of a charitable nature and is maintained at present at the great personal sacrifices of the Teachers. It is therefore necessary to invite the kind co-operation of Mill owners and other benevolent people desirous of improving the condi of Workmen by spreading cation among them.

Monthly Subscriptions a nations are earnestly from the charitable publ

REPUTATION

The reputation of a manufacturer is a most difficult thing to build up, an easy thing to lose therefore to a manufacturer of repute his reputation is his most jealously guarded passession, and this is reflected in the uniform excellence of the goods he manufactures.

The house of Merck has been in existence for more than 260 years, and has steadily built up a reputation for purity and reliability unequalled throughout the world. This reputation is behind every bottle of the famous Merck brand of Hydrogen Peroxide 12 Vols.) which has been named

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BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS

—:o:—

GOKAK TALUK RYOT CONFERENCE:—Gokak Taluka Ryot Conference meets on the 22nd inst. at Gokak under the presidentship of Shidaramapa Pavale of Hubli.

—:o:—

STEAMER MOVEMENTS:—The N. Y. K. Steamer "Yamagata Maru" left Colombo for Bombay on the 16th inst., and is due to arrive here on Friday morning, the 20th idem.

PUBLIC LECTURE ON GUJARATI LITERATURE:—Professor N. B. Divatia, B.A., will deliver his fifth lecture on "Gujarati Literature" at the University Convocation Hall at 5-30 p.m. to-day (Wednesday). The lecture is open to the public.

Subject-Kalapi: Hridaya-triputi and allied poems.

—:o:—

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS CIRCLE:—A meeting of the Circle will take place to-morrow (Thursday) at 4 P.M. at Alwane Rafat Ridge Road, Malabar Hill, when the recommendations to be sent to the Educational Departments will be considered. Atya Begum will take the chair. All are cordially invited to attend.

—:o:—

MUNICIPAL ROUND IN "E' WARD:—The Municipal Commissioner and Councillors of "E" Ward will meet near the Byculla Fire Brigade Station on Thursday, the 19th February at 7-30 a.m. (B. T.) to go round the Ward. Residents of the Ward who have grievances to represent should be present at the appointed place and time.

—:o:—

MAHILA SEVA MANDAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION GATHERING:—On Thursday, the 19th February at 5-30 (S. T.) at the Damodar Thakersey Moolji Hall, Parel, Poibavdi, a gathering will be held for distributing certificates and prizes to the students of the Parel Branch of the Mahila Seva Mandal of the Social Service League, Bombay, for their successes in various examinations.

Mr. Justice G. D. Madgaokar will preside.

—:o:—

FIRST-AID CLASS IN KANARESE:—The above class started under the auspices of the Radiant Club Ambulance Branch, was conducted by the Kanara Social Service Association, and the following 7 students from the total number of 8 candidates, who appeared for the examination on the subject "First-Aid To The Injured" held by Dr. K. H. Chautai, have come out successful:—

For Certificates:—Messrs. H. S. Kalnad, A. D. Anchan, C. C. Kotian, B. S. Amin, Y. K. Kotian, L. A. Salian.

For Lable:—V. S. Benjers.

LANTERN LECTURE ON "ANCIENT PERSIAN CIVILIZATION AND ITS EFFECTS."

A public lecture in Gujarati will be delivered under the auspices of the above Society to-day, Wednesday, 18th February at 6 p.m. (S.T.) at "Sir Cowasji Jehangir Public Hall," by Mr. Behman Sohrabji Banaji on "Ancient Persian Civilization and its lasting effects on the Modern Civilization of the World." The lecture will be illustrated by Lantern Slides and by exhibiting by the Projector Pictures in connection with the "International Persian Art Exhibition" opened at Burlington House, London, in January last. All are cordially invited to attend.

(Advt.)

LIQUOR SHOP AUCTION AT ALIBAG

—:o:—

To the Editor "Bombay Chronicle"

Sir,—Your account of the liquor shop auctions at Alibag reported on page 3 of your issue of February 13, has several inaccuracies in it. The auctions were held at the Court Hall and not the Collector's office. The hall was crowded and far from the picketing having "the desired effect" and causing "very few shops" to be auctioned, the results were as follows:—

Country liquor: 50 shops sold out of 78; Hemp drugs 18 out of 18 and Opium 16 out of 17.—Yours etc.,

J. F. GENNINGS.
Director of Information

Bombay, Feb. 16.

REDUCED RATES FOR HAJ PILGRIMS.

The Government of India have arranged with Messrs. Turner Morrison and Co., of the Mogul Line, and with Mr. Khaleeli, of the Khaleeli Line, for a reduction of the steamer fares charged to Haj pilgrims who proceed to Hedjaz in the current pilgrim season. The reductions agreed to by the two companies are from Rs. 125 for a single ticket and Rs. 195 for a return ticket, from either Bombay or Karachi to Rs. 110 and Rs. 160 respectively. In the case of Calcutta, Messrs. Turner Morrison and Co., the only company concerned with traffic from that port, have agreed to reduce fares from Rs. 150 for the single journey and Rs. 250 for the return journey to Rs. 135 and Rs. 215 respectively. In all cases, the rates mentioned are for deck passengers, without food.

"LAW-BREAKERS MUST SUFFER FOR THEIR ACTION."

Lively Passage-At-Arms In Court.

Lively passages-at-arms between the Magistrate and the Defence Counsel marked the proceedings of the sedition trial of Mr. T. R. Naravane, first 'dictator' of the 'G' Ward Congress Committee now undergoing imprisonment being convicted under the Criminal Law Amendment Act and Mr. Ambedkar, Printer and Publisher of the Popular Printing Press before Mr. H. P. H. Dastur, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay on Tuesday.

SONGS OF REVOLUTION.

The accused in this case are charged with publishing and printing respectively of a Marathi booklet entitled "Samarth Bharat Mala" which according to the prosecution contained seditious songs. The poems objected to were named "Songs of revolution" and "Martyrdom of Jatin Das".

Mr. Gadkari who appeared for the first accused addressed the court on behalf of the defence. He stated that the poem on Jatin Das only suggested that "Indians should take up the one good weapon of 'Satyagraha'. In the poem there was a line stating that innumerable patriots fell victims to the tortures of foreigners.

"SUFEERING NOT TORTURE."

The Magistrate held that it meant that the Government were torturing patriots which he said was false.

Mr. Gadkari contended that it referred to the sufferings of the patriots.

Magistrate: Suffering does not mean torture. The law-breakers must suffer for their action. Congressmen have already declared that they want to render the Government impossible.

The Magistrate continuing said that he would like to know the name of a patriot who fell a victim to the tortures of the Government.

Mr. Gadkari: A man who dies for the country's cause is a patriot. Lala Lajpatrai died .....

Magistrate: I don't know whether he died of 'lathi' blows. I don't think it is so.

"THESE KIND OF PEOPLE."

The Magistrate held that the only impression that the line in question conveyed to an ordinary man was that the foreigners were out to torture patriots.

Mr. Gadkari remarked that Jatin Das went on hunger-strike as a protest against the conditions of jail life. He then read further passages from the poem and one of the lines called Bhagatsingh and Dutt "protectors."

Magistrate: Do you call bomb-throwers protectors? Do you justify it.

At this stage a crowd was going along the road in front of the court shouting slogans and the Magistrate addressing Mr. Gadkari, said, "Do yu mean to say that these kind of people will analyse the lines in a critical manner"?

Mr. M. N. Talpade, advocate who appeared for the second accused then addressed the court.

ABOLITION OF KHOTI DEMANDED

—:o:—

Ratnagiri Peasants' Conference.

(From A Correspondent.)

CHIPLUN, Feb. 17.

Under the auspices of the Konkan Prant Shetkari Sangh a meeting of peasants of Ratnagiri District was held at Chiplun yesterday under the presidentship of Sjt. N. N. Patil, M.L.C.

One of the resolutions passed at the meeting condemned the attempt on the part of Khots to mislead the public by conveying a conference on behalf of the peasants of the District at Devrukh for the 18th inst. Another resolution demanded immediate abolition of "Khoti" which was the root cause of poverty and misery of the peasants.

PLEADING WITH LABOUR GOVT.

Resolutions emphasising the necessity of nationalisation of land and organizing of peasants on class basis, requesting the British Labour Government to concede demands of workers and peasants for adult suffrage and requesting Government to immediately pass tenancy and money-lenders' bills etc., were passed.

OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BOMBAY.

The third annual meeting of the Ophthalmological Society of Bombay was held at the A. M. C. Free Ophthalmic Hospital under the presidentship of Dr. D. D. Sathaye, the president of the society, on Saturday.

Dr. Sathaye briefly outlined the growth of the society and the part it had played in organising the All-India Ophthalmological Congress. The membership of the society had greatly increased and keen interest was being taken in its progress.

Two papers were then read on diseases affecting the eye. Later a dinner was held at Brandon's at which most of the members of the society were present.

ASSAULTS CEASE

—:o:—

Situation In Benares

BENARES, Feb. 16.

Much improvement is noticeable in the communal situation here to-day, and there have been no reports of assaults. But people are still panic-striken and many Hindus and Moslems are removing their families to safer places. Shops are not yet open and schools and colleges remain closed. It is believed that it will take a week for normal conditions to be restored. The definite number of casualties is not available at present, but reports of deaths of about fifteen persons have been received and the number of the injured is large. Those admitted to hospital number 194—A.P.

BOMBER CRASHES AND KILLS.

Singapore.—Flyng Officer S. A. Davis and Corporal V. R. R. Boyce have been killed as result of their torpedo bomber crashing into sea.

Madrid.—Sanchez Guerra has abandoned Cabinet making.—Reuter.

POLICE RAID OFFICE IN CHURCHGATE STREET

Cyclostyl Machine Seized....

The Bombay C. I. D. raided on Saturday last a room in Ready-money Building, Churchgate Street, Bombay, and seized a cyclostyle machine and 1,000 copies of an unauthorised news sheet named "Charger". The room, it is said, was in the occupation of the "Weekly Herald".

PARISH SPORTS AT KOLI KALYAN.

—:o:—

(From a Corresponder.t).

A very large gathering was present this evening at the sports organised by the parish of Koli-Kalyan. Mr. Joseph W. Gomes, Bar-at-Law, presided. The various items on the programme were very keenly contested. The spectators evinced great interest in the chariot race in which the men were blindfolded and strapped with reins, while the ladies acted as the drivers. The president in the course of his speech after referring to the value and importance of sports, thanked the secretaries and the members of the committee for the successful function they had organised. He made special mention of the ladies who by their efforts had contributed largely to make the occasion a success. Mr. Jos-Alex Dias, who next addressed the gathering spoke on the need of unity and charity. He stressed the co-ordination of all efforts of various Catholic institutions in the suburbs for the general uplift of the community.

Among those present were Messrs. Simon Pereira, J. B. C Noronha, and J. Crasto.

EKAMBARA IYER TRANSFERRED TO YEROWDA

—:o:—

Sjt. A. S. Ekambara Iyer, Organiser of the Hindustani Seva Dal and a former G. O. C. of the Congress volunteers and Sjt. Gulam Ahmed Khan Arzu, Editor of "Hilal", were transferred from the Arthur Road Jail to Yeravda yesterday.

Sjt. Ekambaram was first placed in the B class but later put in the C class. Sjt. Arzu is also placed in C class.

TRADE UNION UNITY ENDS IN FIGHT.

Heated discussion took place at the meeting of the Propaganda Committee of the Trade Unions for the purposes of unity amongst Trade Unions on Tuesday night, when a vote of censure on the representatives of nine Trade Unions who had dissociated themselves with the work of the Committee came up for discussion.

CENSURE MOTION

The censure vote was moved by Mr. S. V. Deshpande and seconded by Mr. Philip Antone which was defeated by a majority of votes after Messrs. Sunder Kabadi, V. H. Joshi and Tyab Shaikh had defended the action of the signatories.

After the meeting was over an attempt to assault Mr. Tyab Shaikh one of the representatives of the nine Unions was made by members of the Young Workers' League but owing to the intervention of the public Mr. Sheikh escaped injuries.

STOP PRESS.

BRITISH BUSINESSMEN ARRESTED FOR FRAUD.

LONDON, Feb. 17.

Thirteen well-known West of Scotland and North of England businessmen were formally remanded to custody at Glasgow Sheriff's Court to-day on charges of fraud and false pretences arising from the Crown investigation of affairs of the Scottish Amalgamated Silks Limited. The amount involved is stated to be 438 thousand sterling. —Reuter.

GOOD RESULTS TO-MORROW.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

It seems that the first two hours of the talk were confined to general discussion, and that thereafter, specific issues were discussed, and each side took notes of points of view made by the other. This attempt at 'give and take' was proceeding when Mahatma Gandhi had to terminate the talk because of his dinner being timed before sunset. Well informed circles hope, that the talks, well begun to-day, might yield good result to-morrow.—A. P.

NO MISSION COMING OUT TO INDIA.

LLONDON, February 17.

In the House of Commons Mr. Churchill drew attention to contradictory reports from New Delhi and from London of the alleged intention of His Majesty's Government to sen Messrs. Benn and Thomas on a mission to India soon.

THE MISSION.

Mr. MacDonald regretted that from time to time usually in connection with the most delicate situations baseless rumours appeared in news reports, and said that this was case in point. No such decision had been made. Government had been considering in consultation with Viceroy how best to carry on negotiations begun in London and arrangements when completed would be announced to the Commons.

HIS RELIEF.

Mr. Churchill said that MacDonald's statement would give considerable and widespread feeling of relief all over the country. He asked whether in event of any Commission being sent, the House would have the opportunity of discussing beforehand the proposals of the Government and when definite information would be given to the House regarding the exact scope and purpose of the mission.

MARCHING ORDERS.

Mr. MacDonald replied: "I really must hold that in that respect the House has given us our marching orders".

Mr. Churcill: "I cannot possibly allow that statement without asking the Prime Minister to define much more exactly what he means by his vague and menacing phrase".

AUTHORS OF RUMOURS.

Sir Nicholas Grattan-Doyle asked whether it was intended to take proceedings against the authors of these "malicious and mischievous rumours."

There was no reply to either question.—Reuter.

SIR PURSHOTTAMDAS THAKOREDAS DEFEATED

Chamber's Representatives To Central Cotton Committee

At the election of the representative of Indian Merchants' Chamber to the Central Cotton Committee held yesterday, Sir Purshottamdas Thakoredas was defeated by Mr. C. B. Mehta. Sir Purshottamdas secured 10 votes and Mr. Mehta 11.

SARDAR VALLABHBHAI IN BOMBAY.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patil with Sjt. Matharodas Trikamdas arrived here on Tuesday morning. Sardar is not able to stir out at present, as he sprained one of his legs at Allahabad. When asked to give his opinion about the present situation as a result of the peace talks with Messrs. Sapru, Sastri and Jayakar, he refused to say anything in the matter.

—:o:—

In Memory Of Pt. Motilal

—:o:—

NEW YORK INDIANS' OFFER TO PT. JAWAHARLAL

(SPECIAL CABLE TO "THE CHRONICLE".

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.

A meeting of Indians was held at New York to-day when speeches were made by Messrs. Dhun Gopal Mukerjee, Felix Valyi and T. A. K. Rezmie. Resolutions were passed conveying condolences to the Nehru family and re-assuring President Jawaharlal that Indian national work will be continued in America.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

OPERATORS AWAITING POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Quiet But Steady Tone.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

The local share market opened steady with a fairly good turnover of business which soon followed by dullness. Business became narrow and operators are awaiting political developments. At the advance there was some long liquidation and prices declined few points but towards the close there was partial rally on short covering. The market opinion is divided and in view of various uncertain factors operators are feeling shy of taking definite stand. In the meantime the textile industry is passing through satisfactory state. However so of the mills who carried large stocks of raw cotton are reported to have achieved no better results owing to heavy decline in the values of raw cotton. Bombay Dyeing opened at Rs. 670 and after declining to Rs. 665 closed at Rs. 668/12. Fazals opened at Rs. 356 and after declining to Rs. 350 recovered to the opening level. Pearls were steady at Rs. 239/6. Tata Steel Ordinary shares also recovered the weakness before the close.

ACTIVE SHARES AT A GLANCE

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Bombay Dyeing 670 63 68
Century 258 52 55 53 56
Colaba 106
Crescent 70
Fazul 356 50 56 55
Indore 345 46
Madhowji N 28
Nagpur 362 60 65
New Great 165 62 65
Pearl 239 35 39
Simplex 68
Swadeshi 280 78 81
Burma 472 67 70
Hydro 107
Tram 118-2
Deff 286
Ord 26-8 25-14 26-8
Bundi 13-10 N
Indian 183 86-14
Katni Ord 151
Alcock 162 61

MILLS.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

100 Ahm. Advance	315
50 Apollo	3-0-0
10 Bom. Cotton P.	3-12
500 Bombay Cotton	130
250 Bombay Dyeing	668-12
250 Bradbury P.	160
250 Bradbury	130
100 Century	296-4
500 Central India P.	445/0
100 Central India	365
100 Colaba	106.4
100 Cooria	147/8
100 Crescent	70-0
250 Currim	70-0
250 David	110
250 Dawn	510
10 E. D. Sassoon D.	0-6-6
200 E. D. Sassoon	50
100 Elphinstone P.	20
100 Elphinstone	5-12
250 Fazulbhoy	355-10
100 Finlay	75
1000 Framji Petit	170
100 Gokak	128-12
1000 Hindustan	1,405
100 Indore Malwa	346-14
100 Jamshed Pref	60
250 Jamshed	10
50 Kastoorchand	11-12
100 Khatau	102-8
100 Kohinoor	137-2
250 Laxmi	1000
100 Madhowji	28-12
250 Madras United	275
1000 Maneckji Petit	738/12
100 Meyer Sassoon	45
1000 Morarji	354/6
50 Mysore	102-8
200 New Great P.	125-0
200 New Great	165
100 New City	50
250 Pabani	127/8
250 Pearl	239-6
100 Phoenix	290/0
10 Premier	1-0-0
100 Shapurji	5-12
1000 Sholapur	1435
250 Simplex	68-2
100 Swan	75
100 Swadeshi	281-14
25 Tata P.	14
25 Tata	30
500 Vishnu P.	567-8
500 Vishnu	1495
1000 Western	690

BANKS.

100-50 Baroda	72/0
50-25 Central	14-13
£10-5 Eastern	74
500 Imperial	1100
500-125 Imperial Contr.	270
100-50 India	37-8
5 Union	3-4-0

CEMENT.

10 Bundi	13-10
70 Gwalior	66-4
250 Indian	186-14
100 Katni 1st P.	102
100 Katni 2nd P.	102-8
40 Katni Df.	597-8
100 Katni	151-4
10 Punjab P.	10-2
10 Punjab	8-4
100 Shahabad	146-4

INSURANCE.

10 Jupiter P.	8-2
15 Jupiter	7-8
15 New India	15-14
200,100 Oriental	1625
10 Vulcan	5-8

ELECTRIC.

100 Ahmedabad	120
1000 Andhra Val. P.	955
1000 Andhra Val.	608-12
50 Bom. Tram P.	64.8XD
50 Bombay Tram	118-2
100 Tata Hydro P.	105-0
100 Tata Hydro	107-3
1000 Tata Power P.	1055
1000 Tata Power	435

RAILWAYS.

500 Ahm. Prantij	805
100 Amritsar Patti	118
100 Central Provin.	37/0
100 Dho. Barramati	91-8
100 Guzrat	66-8
90 Mandra Bhon	65-8
500 Tapti Valley	672-8

MINING

10 Central India	0-12-0
10 Shivrajpur	13/8
150 Tata Steel 1 P.	118/0
100 Tata Stel 2 P.	48-8
30 Tata Steel D.	286-4
75 Tata Steel	26-8

MISCELLANEOUS

100 Alcock	161-4
80 Bom. Uganda	16-0
250 Bom. Steam P.	200/10
250 Bom. Steam	173-2
50 Bom. Telephone	42
8s. Brit B. Petrol	3.0
125 Bombay Burma Old	470
50 Bom. Burma New	175
100 Indian Bleaching	108-12
15 Scindia	6-15

BOMBAY COTTON

—:o:—

INDIAN COTTON CROP.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

As usual in response to quiet New York cables, the local market was due to open at Rs. 212 for Broach A-M delivery, but the market opened strong at Rs. 215-8 and advanced to Rs. 216-8. At this level there was profit taking by professional operators and prices eased off to Rs. 214. Indian cotton crop forecast due to-day was expected to be bullish and prices advanced again. The Indian cotton crop is estimated by the Government at 4,836,000 bales, which was construed as anticipated and prices maintained the improvement to Rs. 215-8. Liverpool market was due to open unchanged, but it opened firm at a rise of 4 points. The flow of long liquidation at last told on the market and prices closed at about the lowest level of the day as under:—

Broach A/M 213/8
Broach J/A 221
Oomra March 177
Oomra May 179
Bengal March 159/8
Bengal May 161

FRUITALCO SALINE

The Indo-Asian Products Company have recently put on the market an effervescent saline preparation which is good or the many foreign preparations that have held the field until now. Swadeshi medical preparations decline every encouragement and we hope this preparatino will soon become popular.

ROOM RATE.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Bengal March	161
Bengal May	163
Broach A.-M.	215
Broach J.-A.	222
Oomra March	178
Oomra May	180

SPOT RATE.

	Ex-S.	Fine	F.G.G.	G.
Bengal	174	170	166	162
P.A.	172	168	164	160
Rajputana	173	169	165	161
Broach	227	224	220	—
Oomra No. 3	184	180	176	—
C.P. No. 1	198	194	190	—
C.P. No. 2	190	186	182	—

SAMPIN QUOTATIONS.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

February 137.20 plus 0.30.
May 130.80 plus 0.30.
August 130.60 plus 1.10.

READY COTTON SALES

Bombay, Feb. 17.

100	G. G. Kesha	Barwaha	181-12
100	Motiram Vaghji	Gujrat	132
81	Arjan Khimji	Chopda	179
100	Toyomankwa	Miyagaon	223
100	S. J. David	Nandura	181
100	E. Spinner & Co.	Dabhoi	223
139	Currimbhai	Bombay Press	165
52	Dawn Mill	Khamgaon	171
40	B Karshandas	Deolgaon	172-12
37	Gili & Co.	Verayal	135
51	Gokak Mill	Belapur	153

—:o:—

READY COTTON QUOTATIONS.

—:o:—

Bombay, Feb. 17.

	Fine	Average
Bengal Superfine	170	160
Bengal Fine	165	155
Bengal F G	160	150
Sindh-Punjab Fine	165	155
Sindh-Punjab F G	160	150

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Wardha-Hingt Fine	185	180
Nagpur Savner Fine	190	180
Yeotmal Fine	180	175
Arvi Fine	180	175
Amraoti Fine	175	170
Khamgaon-Akola Fine	175	170
Mulkapur Fine	170	165
Khandesh Fine	170	165
Muthia Fine	165	160
Burwah Sanavad Fine	185	175

GOLD & SILVER.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Gold Bar Spot	21	5	3
Fagan	21	6	3
Chaitra	21	8	3
Silver Bar Spot	41	12	0
Fagan	36	13	6
Tejimandi Fagan	1	15	0

THE TATA OIL MILLS' QUOTATIONS.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Ex-Godown, Bombay.

Filtered Cocoanut Oil Ready Rs. 399/- per ton.

Filtered Til Seed Oil Ready Rs. 15/- per ton cases 34 lbs.

Cocoanut Cake Ready Rs. 94/- per ton.

—:o:—

AMERICAN COTTON FIGURES

F P Bales—

Receipts to date 16-2-31 1930-31 7639000 1929-30 7550000

Receipts yesterday 16-2-31 1930-31 15000 1929-30 10000

Exports to date 16-2-31 1930-31 4774000 1929-30 5256000

Stock at Ports 13-2-31 1930-31 4030000 1929-30 2272000

Stock at Interior Towns 13-2-31 1930-31 1589000 1929-30 1326000

Stock at Liverpool 13-2-31 1930-31 1110000 1929-30 1012000

Visible Supply 13-2-31 1930-31 7856000 1929-30 5395000

Quantity in Sight 13-2-31 1930-31 11291000 1929-30 12136000

Quantity out of Sight 13-2-31 1930-31 6524000 1929-30 8310000

Latest Cotton Prices.

—:o:—

(Through the Cotton Information Bureau, 331 Ismail Building, 2nd floor Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.)

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET.

—:o:—

MARCH

New York, Feb. 17.

Previous closing	10.85
To-day's opening	10.95
Difference	plus .10
Today's closing	10.97
Difference	plus .12

Broach expectation A/M Rs. 210

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

—:o:—

MARCH.

Liverpool, Feb. 17.

Previous closing	5.77
To-day's opening	5.81
Difference	plus .04
To-day's closing	5.88
Difference	plus 11

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Jehangir Wadia Building,
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For
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BOMBAY CHRONICLE

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THE BOMBAY CHRONICLE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13, 1931.

RAILWAY FINANCE.

—:o:—

For the first time since Railway revenues were separated from general revenues do the Railway estimates presented by Sir George Rainy in the Assembly on Tuesday show the Indian Railways working at a loss. The net result this year is expected to be a loss on commercial lines of no less than 293 lakhs as against a profit last year of 6 crores. The loss on strategic lines is 219 lakhs, which brings up the total loss on all railways to 512 lakhs. Consequently, to meet the annual contribution to general revenues of 574 lakhs, as much as 1086 lakhs will have to be taken from the previously accumulated reserves, leaving a balance of only 5-1/2 crores. The huge loss is evidently due to general trade depression and also to some extent to the failure to effect adequate economies in the expenditure. While the first cause is admitted by all, the Railway authorities are loth to admit their failure to reduce expenditure but wrongly and conveniently hold the civil disobedience movement partly responsible for the losses. It must be remembered that if British goods are boycotted, non-British goods are either permitted or encouraged, and the internal trade in Swadeshi goods is phenomenally brisk, but the railway returns show that traffic has declined considerably in practically all commodities. There is more truth in the remark in the Explanatory Memorandum to the Railway Budget, which says: "The fall in the prices of most agricultural products has restricted the ability of large classes of the population to indulge their propensity for travelling as freely as before." That fall has also reduced the people's purchasing power in general. And be it not forgotten in this connection that Government's forcing up the exchange to 1/3d. has reduced the value of the ryots' produce by 12 per cent. and that we are in various ways experiencing the results that were foretold by Indian economists when in defiance of their unanimous opinion the Government changed the exchange ratio.

As regards Budget estimates for the year 1931-32, the traffic receipts on account of commercial lines are estimated to yield nearly six crores more than in the current year and leave a surplus of 317 lakhs. The balance left after deducting the 196 lakhs for loss on strategic lines is 121 lakhs representing gain on all lines during 1931-32. But this being insufficient to meet the compulsory contribution of 536 lakhs to general revenues, railway reserves will again be drawn upon to the extent of 415 lakhs. The balance of the reserve left at the end of the year will then be only 1-1/2 crores. The position thus envisaged is anything but satisfactory. To enable traffic receipts to yield a surplus, it is proposed to raise rates; but such a rise is bound to be a serious handicap to trade and an additional hardship at a time when trade depression has affected all classes of people. On the other hand, there is every chance of the passenger and goods traffic being adversely affected by the increase in rates. Easily the best way to insure a surplus or at least to reduce the deficit if it is inevitable is to effect at once substantial economies in the expenditure. There is room for considerable economy in the present railway expenditure. But it is amazing that in the estimates for the year 1931-32 the working expenses are only 3/4 of a crore lower than in the present year.

We admit there is little or no room for retrenchment in the lower paid staff. We are aware too that some of the recently adopted welfare schemes, the enforcement of the new Employment and Periods of Rest rules, made in pursuance of Washington and Geneva Conventions, will mean some extra expenditure. But considerable economies can still be effected in the general expenditure and in particular in the over-head charges. A series of prosperous years have tended to raise these charges unconscionably and have also led to the creation of several unnecessary posts at the top. As an average non-Indian officer is far more costly than an Indian, the speeding up of the process of Indianisation can effect a great deal of saving. Lakhs and crores have been misspent in providing luxuries to 1st and 2nd class passengers, the interests of the 3rd class passengers, who yield more profit to the Railways, being scandalously neglected. Half that expenditure might have sufficed, if all classes of passengers were provided with only the necessary amenities. If the whole Railway Board were Indianised, it would show how the Railways can be managed efficiently, economically and in the interests of the people of the country.

WISE DECISION.

The Hertzog Government, it is reported, have at last seen the wisdom of withdrawing the notorious Land Tenure Bill, a piece of anti-Asiatic legislation which would have succeeded in hounding the Indian community out of South Africa, except the Cape Province. The persistent agitation set up by the South African Indian Congress and the endeavours of Sir Kurma Reddi, who received in his strenuous task, we are now informed, the support of the Government of India, have opened the eyes of Dr. Malan to the necessity of abating his anti-Asiatic zeal. But this does not mean that the Indian question in South Africa is amicably settled. The Land Tenure Bill was an attempt to incorporate in a legislative measure many of the harshest interpretations of the old Gold Law of 1908, that sought to deprive Indians of rights and privileges which, as Mr. Andrews says, "they had been led to believe were absolutely secure". It was the intervention of Whitehall which clipped this law finally of a number of its obnoxious features and later agitation on the part of Indians enabled them to live in Natal and the Transvaal under less onerous conditions. But attempts have been persistently made by the provincial administrations and the local authorities in these parts of South Africa to put pressure upon them to leave the towns and go into "locations", thus accepting the "segregation" principle. The Indian community has always resented these attempts and frequently secured justice from the Supreme Court by appealing to it. The Land Tenure Bill, had it been passed, would have made the economic position of Indians intolerable. As regards political rights, they have, of course, none, except the enjoyment of the franchise in the Cape Province. Now that the Hertzog Government have become aware of the necessity of not advancing the cause of the Anti-Asiatics in South Africa, they should take courage in both hands, shed their narrow prejudice and make an honest endeavour to implement the Cape Town Agreement, particularly in regard to tis "uplift" clauses.

"EGREGIOUS FOLLY"

—:o:—

We deeply regret to announce the sad re-emergence of Sir Sankaran Nair into public life almost in tragic circumstances. His has been a composite career of some usefulness and utter—very often positively dangerous—futility. This reached, it will be easily recalled, what was tantamount to its climax during the Non-Co-operation days when as President of a peace meeting in Bombay he staged a spectacular "walk-out" with an irrepressible love of the dramatic but little sense of it. He then wrote a book gratuitously attacking Gandhiji. One would have expected Sir Sankaran Nair to give much to forget the sequel.

But he possesses an amazingly acute instinct of self-infliction precisely at the moment when it is least wanted. He could not suppress it at the time of the Simon Commission controversy, decided to betray the country even when Moderates had stood by it, produced a Minority report that was good in many parts and then went to earth. Some of his admirers wished to regard it thankfully as the final and crowning act of a long life interspersed with good deeds to relieve the monotony. They passionately hoped that this was his last political performance.

But the old hero is once more on the war path. He has again sallied forth to undo his absence at the psychological moment. The temerity with which he recalls what happened ten years ago, and, by an association of ideas his own ignominious part therein is disquieting. It is a portent suggesting that Sir Sankaran Nair will repeat himself thoroughly: write another book "Gandhi and Red Ruin," unwittingly qualifying a fulsome praise of the powers-that-be by an uncomplimentary reference to a 'satrap' and running at a tangent on a variety of topics. But whatever the transition period may hold for him, he has suggested a very appropriate epitaph for himself in the language that he has just used about Mahatma Gandhi.

PROHIBITION IN INDIA.

Prohibition in India is bound to be an accomplished fact within a few months of her attaining Swaraj. Even now mighty strides are being made towards abstinence by sheer voluntary effort. To take the latest report of the auction sale of toddy booths at Malvan, it is said that though the sale of 55 booths was widely advertised and though the Mamlatdar and a number of other officials and policemen with lathis had mustered strong at the auction place to put down any opposition to bidding, not a single bidder turned up. At several other places the bids have been ridiculously low. The provincial budgets will soon show to what an extent the liquor revenue has collapsed.

TRUE PROPAGANDA.

Says the "Sunday Despatch" of London: "The folly of attempting to kill Indian sedition by kindness is illustrated by grave news from Bombay. Organised bands of rioters made the city a welter of bloodshed and confusion and trampled in the dust the prestige of the British Raj." We have tried our best to recall this very serious outrage, but without success. But if we cannot remember the tragedy even in its vaguest form the fault, we recognise, is entirely ours. For, so far as lies and falsehoods are concerned they are the exclusive monopoly of the unscrupulous Indians and their dupes like Mr. Brailsford, Negley Farson and others.

AN APPEAL TO PATRIOTS

To The Editor of "The Chronicle"

Sir,—I have written a book in Gujrati on my Jail experiences also containing the Jail Rules and Regulations. Now that so many persons are courting imprisonment in the cause of the country this book will be of great interest and very useful to the public. In my opinion it must be distributed free of charge to the members of the public in the whole of Bombay City and Suburbs. But I alone cannot cope with the expenses. I shall, therefore, be glad to know if any patriotic person is willing to co-operate with me in this patriotic work. My address is given below.

R. D. BALIWALA.
Hill Road, Bandra.

AN APPEAL TO THE A.I.S.A.

To the Editor of "The Chronicle".

Sir,—In the issue of the 5th instant of the "Chronicle" Mr. Sabapathy had written an article under the above caption as a reply to my article of January 28, wherein I had appealed to the A. I. S. A. to open a large number of weaving-sheds in villages, that are near large towns like Bombay, so that towns-people also may be encouraged to spin seriously. I had also suggested that the A. I. S. A. may use a portion of the reward of Rs. 100,000, which is offered for the invention of a new spinning-wheel, for the purpose, above-mentioned. Commenting on this, Mr. Sabapathy had written that though weaving facilities were desirable, yet the reward of Rs. 100,000 should not be interfered with. Besides this, he had also stated that those townspeople, who are spinning earnestly, ought to undergo a little loss on account of the lack of enough weaving facilities for the sake of the country as a bit of sacrifice. No doubt, his arguments are quite reasonable, but I would like to say a few things about them.

First of all, I agree with his first statement so far as the reward is concerned. In my former article, the only object, I had in view, was that city-spinners also must be given weaving facility so that Khadi-production may gather momentum. But, I was not sure whether the A. I. S. A. can afford to take in hand this work also. So, I had suggested that, if the A. I. S. A. was in necessity of funds, it might reduce the reward of Rs. 100,000 to say, Rs. 50,000, and utilise the remainder for such work as I have mentioned. Provided the A. I. S. A. is not in want of funds for this work, there is no need to reduce the reward at all. But anyhow, the A. I. S. A. must either take up this work itself or help smaller institutions to take up this work. Now, the second point. To spin at a loss is, no doubt, a very praiseworthy sacrifice but, how many people will realise this? I personally, do not mind it at all but, many others will. Those that spin for economy's sake will not relish this idea. Only a few Khadi lovers will ignore the idea of loss. Even the rich and middle-class people will not like to lose anything consciously. So, cheap weaving facilities must be offered, if Khadi is to thrive well.—Yours, etc.,

M. SUBRAMANIAM.

R. T. C. SCHEME RESERVATIONS

FINANCIAL SAFEGUARDS ANALYSED

(By K. T. SHAH)

[We publish below the third instalment of the Note on the R. T. C. Scheme, prepared by Mr. Shah for the Indian Merchants' Chamber. The 1st and 2nd instalments were published on the 14th and the 15th instant respectively.]

III.

Of the financial safeguards let us take first the most important, the guarantee demanded of a financial nature. It relates to the strict fulfilment of the obligations of the present Government of India in regard to the so-called public debt of India, and in relation to the powers of borrowing of the future Government of India. Essentially speaking, these two are radically different. While the former concerns the past deeds of the Government, the latter aims at binding the future Government of India, so that the interests of the existing creditors are not unduly hurt. The burden of the existing debt is so heavy that it effectually prevents any consideration of the schemes of economic development of the resources of India which are crying for the necessary vital fluid without which no such development is possible. The same applies to projects of social reform like Prohibition. The heaviness, however, of the burden imposed by the co-called public debt of India will, by itself, be not a sufficient reason to question the safeguards demanded in respect of these debts, were it not for the fact that the origin of the debt or of the several items in the debt, and the use made of such debt when it was incurred, together with the authority for incurring such an obligation which would in law as well as equity be binding upon the people of India, are all matters involving the most serious possible dispute.

INSISTENT DEMAND.

The Indian people, through their National Congress, have demanded a comprehensive investigation of the origin, composition and authority for the so-called public debt. While that demand is not by itself equal to a wholesale and summary repudiation of all the public debt of India, it necessarily draws attention to the objectionable features in the origin, composition or employment of the debt incurred. A blank refusal to investigate these questions cannot but prove suspicious by itself. It is unnecessary in this Note to go into the details of this debt. Suffice it to add that the demand for a summary acceptance of the public debt of India as it stands to-day, without any investigation whatsoever into the propriety, legality, or equity of any item of that debt, is impossible for the Indian people to agree to. And the consequential demand for the necessary financial provision, as a kind of a consolidated Fund charge on the Indian public purse, is impossible to accept unreservedly.

RADICAL REVISION IN DEBT ADMINISTRATION.

There are, moreover, many features in the administration of the public debt of India, which themselves call for a radical revision. For example, the interest on the so-called sterling debt of India, which is paid in sterling, is exempt from the income-tax of the Government of India. There is no reason of justice or propriety or economy, why such should be the case. But that is not the same as asking Indians, at the present moment, and without any investigation, to accept "in toto" the present figure of the public debt as their own obligation, which they must be bound to maintain integrally, without any substantial variation of the same, or without any attempt to effect materially the volume of the burden falling upon them in consequence of this debt.

EFFECT ON BORROWING

As regards the borrowing powers of the future Government of India, theoretically responsible to the people of India, the safeguards demanded in respect of these by Lord Reading, and apparently agreed to in principle by the representatives of British India at the Conference, would, if accepted, curtail very materially the borrowing powers of even the present subordinate and irresponsible Government of India. For, at present there are no statutory restrictions on the borrowing powers of the Government of India, whether in respect of the object for which they borrow, or the terms and securities they offer to the lender. Lord Reading demanded that there must be a reserve of powers in the Viceroy regarding borrowing, both at home and abroad, regarding the security to be offered to the lenders, regarding the terms of repayment, as also interest and sinking fund for the same; and, above all, regarding the rights of those creditors of India, who have already lent money to her Government which must in no way be prejudiced.

FURTHER RESTRICTIONS ON BORROWING ABROAD.

Borrowing abroad would be liable to further restrictions, of a somewhat indefinite character, amounting, it seems, to a previous sanction by the British Treasury of the terms of any particular loan. This was demanded on the generic plea that: inasmuch as the Indian Government Loans were made to rank by law as Trustee securities in England, it was but proper that the British Treasury should have a voice in the actual terms offered for any such loans hereafter. Even if such a plea were to be conceded as regards loans raised in England, though the restriction does not exist to-day, it is impossible to see why such a restriction of the powers of the future Federal Indian Government should be insisted upon as regards loans raised in other countries. But the whole argument in connection with these restrictions suggested, or safeguards demanded, in this behalf, proceeds on a fundamental misconception of the occasion and nature of public borrowing by a Government like that of the future Dominion or Commonwealth of India. If the future Commonwealth or Dominion of India is at all obliged to borrow,—and there is every reason to believe that borrowing in future would be even less avoidable than at present,—it would be of vital importance for that Government itself to see that the terms and conditions of such borrowing, as well as the general national policy for the employment of all borrowed monies are such that the lender is in no way discouraged, without any officious admonition in that behalf by a foreign body.

UNJUST AND INEQUITABLE DEMAND.

But this is not the same thing as to say that the claims now made by the present creditors of India,—who, be it noted in passing, are private individuals, and not the Government of any foreign State in respect of any portion of the public debt of India as happens to be the case with debts of many a European country, including England,—must be accepted summarily and in full, and that no future loans should be so incurred as in any way to secure that exemption from Indian Income Tax should be made. There is no reason of justice or propriety or economy why the recipients of sterling interest should not be charged differentially with an income-tax by the Government of India, on the analogy of the differential treatment made between earned income-tax or unearned income in respect of the Income Tax on the incomes in these categories in other countries. Now, if the summary demand above mentioned for an unconditional acceptance of the public debt of India, as it stands to-day, and the absolute agreement to conduct it as an obligation admitting of no variation even by means of the powers of taxation or a capital levy, is pressed to the hilt, the Indian people must necessarily reject such a demand in its entirety. There is, of course, room for adjustment of the two points of view, which can be manifest by definitising the exact nature of the safeguard demanded.

WANTED, INDEPENDENT, IMPARTIAL INQUIRY.

But there is no room for argument on the central demand of the Indian people that: before they undertake to accept in full the liability for the present debt of India, they will be given an opportunity for an independent impartial review of the whole question of their so-called public debt. It would be fair, indeed, to demand, even now, that whatever may be the result of such an arbitration or investigation, the same shall be finally and unreservedly accepted by the Indian people as an obligation of honour so as not to prejudice or affect unfavourably in the least the position and interest of the present creditors. If the British Government, as a Government, were the creditors of India, this demand for Special Safeguards might be understandable, even if it be unacceptable. But in this case the demand for a safeguard was clearly inspired in the interest of the private British individuals lending funds to India; and not by any sentiment of the general interest of India. Had the latter been at all considered, this demand could never have been put

(Continued on page 8.)

NOTES OF THE DAY

A Noble Lord's Ravings.

According to Lord Rothermere, whose straightforward dishonesty we admire, "Gandhi and his fellow conspirators are simply a gang of Oriental politicians whose sole purpose is to gain possession of the Government of India so that they may exploit and rob their fellow-countrymen." We do admire the man. But he omitted to inform the world of the virtues, by contrast, of the present possessors of the Government of India. Perhaps Europeans in India and their supporters in England will fill in the background. For the picture of the Mammon Gandhi exploiting and robbing his countrymen is not complete without the blessings enjoyed by Indians, thanks to Lord Rothermere and his fellow-angels. This noble Lord must go to the Heavens to give the Lord Almighty a few lessons in Right and Justice. Meanwhile he must be grateful that the Government in office in Britain is Socialist only in name. Otherwise it might well have accepted inspiration from him and taught the capitalists and exploiters in Britain their proper place.

Dishonourable Condition.

To a resolution that is to be moved in the ensuing session of the Bombay Legislative Council, welcoming the Premier's declaration, Syed Miran Mahomed Shah, a member from Sind, is to propose some curious amendments. One of these is to the effect that Government should declare a general amnesty "only after having received an assurance from the Congress that the Civil Disobedience Movement will be discontinued." The Honourable Member is, perhaps, mechanically expressing the official mind. But he cannot hope to please the public by his talk of amnesty. The public will regard the condition attached to the amnesty as dishonourable. And as regards Congressmen, it is inconceivable that they, who eagerly courted jail, would, having succeeded in every way, purchase release with surrender.

Tell-Tale Figures.

The figures of imports of piecegoods and yarn into the port of Bombay in the calendar year 1930, as published by the Millowners' Association, indicate fairly the intensity of the Boycott Movement, though the movement became intensive only towards the middle of that year. It appears from those figures that the total imports of yarn during the year were 16 million lbs. as compared with 28 million lbs. in the previous year. And imports of piecegoods went down to 297 million lbs. from 565 million lbs. in 1929. It is significant that Japan's losses are said to have been proportionately less than Britain's. As regards the production of cloth in India, it is estimated at 1233 million yards in the half-year ending September 1930, that is, only 30 million yards more than in the corresponding period of the normal year 1927.

Wanted More Khaddar.

These figures do not tell the whole tale. Most of the imports were on account of old orders. Reliable commercial reports show that there have been hardly any new orders worth speaking of and that on the other hand the boycott is so intensive now as to prevent even the disposal of old stocks. Even in places like Madras, where systematic picketing was started only recently the boycott is now reported to be as successful as anywhere else. It is impossible to believe the report of the "Daily Herald" of London that "the flow of orders is to be resumed," and that the change is due to the success of the Round Table Conference. Apart from the fact that the boycott of foreign cloth is meant to be permanent, it is unthinkable that those who are now carrying the boycott would relax the campaign as a result of the London Tamasha. The small increase in the production of mill cloth in India shows the urgent necessity of speeding up the production of Khaddar to make the boycott complete.

Punitive Tax On Allahabad.

According to the "Leader," a punitive police tax at the rate of no less than 5 annas 4 pies has been imposed on the Hindu residents of a number of Mohallas to realise the expenses of extra-police posted a few months ago at the Modern High School of Allahabad. The communal distinction resorted to in the imposition of the tax is very significant. More significant still is the fact that the tax was made to fall due almost exactly when Mahatma Gandhi was writing to the Viceroy in connection with the interview. As one of the Congress leaders is reported to have said at a public meeting at Allahabad, "Government was forcing them to advise a new measure, namely, the starting of a new campaign against that tax."

INDIA IS NOT TIRED OF FIGHTING FOR SWARAJ

We Want Real Swaraj And Not A Mockery Of it Says Azad Maidan Meeting

"While India wants Swaraj, that is a government of the people, the R. T. C. scheme gives us a constitution which will result in the rule of the Viceroy and the Princes. India cannot accept such a scheme. It must be rejected. We want Swaraj and not a mockery of it. Our fight will go on unabated" declared Sjt. K. M. Munshi presiding over a meeting at the Azad Maidan on Tuesday evening.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Bombay Citizens' Association and speeches were delivered on the "Present Situation."

MUNSHI'S EYES ON DELHI.

Sjt. Munshi observed that the eyes of the world were now turned to Delhi where one of the most historic conferences was being held. The Gandhi-Irwin talks would decide not only the fate of India, but the future course of the Satyagraha movement. They would also decide the fate of the British Empire and would affect to a great extent the future history of the world.

NOT SWARAJ.

Examining the "Swaraj" that had been brought by the R. T. C. Knights Sjt. Munshi observed that while the delegates claimed that what was offered was "Swaraj", those Indians who had fought many a battle for the country's freedom during the last ten months felt that they must examine the scheme before they accepted it and on its examination they found that it was not "Swaraj" but a mirage.

RULE OF PRINCES.

Elucidating the same point further Sjt. Munshi declared that the R. T. C. scheme would establish a rule of the Princes and the Viceroy and that was a thing which Indian who had suffered for his country would tolerate. The interference of those Princes in the affairs of British India, who did not give freedom to their own subjects could not be tolerated.

NO SURRENDER.

Maulvi Mohiyooddin Kasuri observed that Indians did not want to be duped or fooled. They had their own history of the last hundred years and the recent history of nations like Ireland, and Egypt and it was enough to open their eyes. He did not like Gandhiji's readiness to see the Viceroy and discuss things because he held that those 60,000 patriots who were rotting in jails were better qualified to deliver the goods than those who were free. "It is impossible for us to forget the lathi blows, the repression, the harassment to which we were subjected and the filthy language that was used in the presence of our women" added the speaker.

Sjt. A. B. Kolhatkar president of the "War Council" described how Britain had always failed to prepare constitutions for the governance of other peoples.

NOT YET TIRED.

Mrs. Lilawati Munshi instead of discussing the R. T. C. scheme wanted to know from the audience if they were tired of fighting as the "Old Woman of Bori Bunder" was trying to make out. She declared that neither the merchants, nor the women, nor the masses were tired of fighting and if any one was really tired it was the Government.

Mrs. Munshi further said that the Viceroy wanted them to forget the past, but she did not know how it would be possible for them to do so. She asked them if they were going to use foreign cloth or abandon Swadeshi if there was peace and the audience replied with an emphatic "No".

Several other speakers addressed the meeting before it terminated.

MAULVI YAKUB PERFORMS A SOMERSAULT.

(Continued from page 1.)

it was likely to be used in a capricious manner.

OFFICIAL MEMBER STANDS BY HIS CLASS.

Mr. R. P. Narayan Sahi (Official Member, Bihar) in his maiden speech, said that this section was carefully examined by the Assembly in 1923 when the Nationalists had fully supported it. The instances quoted by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh had occurred before 1923. As one who had to use this Section, he maintained, amidst the cheers of official and European benches, that it was never used ruthlessly and that it had been used more in communal riots than in political disturbances. He affirmed that this law, on the whole, had not been misused and said: "As long as you expect us to maintain law and order, you should not grudge us this power, which I maintain, has not been misused so far."

Mr. Shafi Daudi also spoke.

SECTION 144 HAS BEEN MISUSED.

Mr. Gayaprasad Singh, replying to the debate, said that he also mentioned cases of wearing of Gandhi caps and displaying of National Flags being bannned under this Section as instances of misuse of the Section and asked were there not High Court decisions in these matters.

SIR JAMES REPLIES.

Sir James Crerar, winding up the debate, exhibited a summary of cases in which during the last four years Section 144 was used in very serious riots that had taken place in, among other places, Calcutta, Lahore and Delhi and always with effect, and said that in all these cases the action taken had been appreciated by many influential sections of public opinion.

BILL SENT FOR CIRCULATION.

Sir James Crerar, concluding, announced on behalf of the Government that they were prepared to support the motion of Mr. Anklesariah (for circulation for eliciting opinion by the 31st August) making it clear that he did not consider that Local Governments would find themselves in a position to take an attitude towards the Bill, other than that taken by the Official Benches. Still, they agreed to circulation as it might be to the advantage of the House to obtain opinion larger and more comprehensive than the opinion of the ordinary citizen. If the Bill was to be referred to a Select Committee, then the Government would have to make strenuous efforts to maintain the existing provision. Mr. Anklesariah's motion for circulation was carried by 51 votes against 50 amidst cheers from both sides of the House.—

END CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Next the Bill of Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh for the abolition of capital punishment was disposed of after a speech by the Home Member, when the motion was rejected without any further speeches and without dvision.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh had argued that public opinion was fast veering rounnd to the view that capital punishment should be stopped as it had most demoralising effects and the offenders had no opportunity to improve themselves.

DRASTIC BILL.

Sir James Crerar considered the Bill drastic and reminded the House that the controversy over it had not yet ended. Indian law was more elastic as it provided an alternative sentence to death, whereas in England no such alternative sentence was provided for in law.

Sir Hari Singh Gour moved the consideration of the Bill to amend the Bar Councils Act, and explained the statement of objects and reasons appended to it.

Sir Lancelot Graham moved the circulation of the Bill for eliciting opinion by the 31st August. He said that the Bill proposed to take away privileges from the class of eminent practitioners and confer them on a class which did not exist. Without ascertaining the opinon of the legal profession on so many clauses, it was dangerous to rush with the measure.

The motion for circulation was agreed to.

Six non-official Bills were then introduced before the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow.These were: (1) A bill by Sir Hari Singh Gour creating a new offence of marital misbehaviour when the wife is below fifteen years of age and fixing the age of consent at eighteen;

(2) A bill by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh for the repeal of part two of the Criminal Law Amendment Act;

(3) A bill by Mr. Amarnath Dutt for the repeal of the Bengal Regulation;

(4) A bill by Mr. Amarnath Dutt to amend Sections four, nine and fourteen of the Bar Councils Act;

(5) A bill by Mr. Harbilas Sarda to secure a share for Hindu widows in their husbands' family property and

(6) A bill by Mr. Amarnath Dutt to amend Section 491 of the Criminal Procedure Code relating to 'Habeas Corpus.'—A. P.

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Delhi Peace Parleys

(Continued from page 1.)

Khaddar participated in the recitation.

EARLIER.

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

Mahatma Gandhi decided to detrain at Ghaziabad (nine miles from Delhi) early this morning and to motor to Delhi, but the news having spread of his impending arrival, a crowd had gathered at the station to see him. He motored to Shahdara and from there had his morning walk. As his route fell on the Jumna riverside, the normal crowd of early morning bathers largely swelled and greeted him. He again got into the motor car and reached Dr. Ansari's house, where another large crowd was awaiting his arrival. It is expected that Mahatma Gandhi will seek an interview with the Viceroy at 2-30 this afternoon.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Sastri, and Mr. Jayakar intend to stay here for four days in connection with the Gandhi-Irwin Talks. They expect an early announcement regarding the procedure for the purpose of carrying on the task of the London Conference and the setting up of local committees and the composition of the British Delegation.—A.P.

ON THE EVE OF FATEFUL INTERVIEW

(From Our Special Correspondt.)

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

Mahatma Gandhi's arrival in Delhi from Allahabad to interview Lord Irwin has been found an occasion by various political forces to stress their respective points of view. For instance the "Hindustan Times" observes that it is on occasions like these that destinies of great empires are made or marred, and Lord Irwin can either enlist the great influence and powers of Gandhiji on the side of strengthening the bond of friendship between India England and the Empire by accepting his demands or once again force this inherently peace-loving and saint-like individual to direct his energies in channels, which while they are bound to result in the freedom for India, are not likely to conduce to prosperity of England and the Empire. For a third time during the last few months Lord Irwin is meeting the one man who can deliver the goods, and what is required of Lord Irwin is not merely sincerity and desire for peace, but courage and statemanship.

SIR SANKARAN NAIR RUNS AMOK

Sir Sankaran Nair, author of 'Gandhi and Anarchy,' writing in the columns of the "Statesman," New Delhi, recalls that ten years ago, when in circumstances far less delicate, Lord Reading proposed a conference only insiting as condition precedent on the imperative necessity of discontinuance of unlawful activities of non-co-operation party, no assurance on this point was offered, but on the contrary Mahatma Gandhi demanded a withdrawal of notifications under Criminal Law Amendment Act and release of persons convicted of offences relating to tampering with the loyalty of the army, and submission to arbitration committee of cases of other persons convicted under ordinary law of the land. This was accompanied by Mahatma Gandhi's plainly expressed intention to continue enrolment of volunteers and preparation of Civil Disobedience. The Sequel of this intransigeant attitude is well-known. Sir Sankaran Nair then asks whether Mahatma Gandhi is going to repeat his egregious folly of 1921 by attempting to lay down conditions which no self-respecting Government could possibly agree to. For his own part Sir Sankaran Nair advises mobilising of public opinion behind the policy announced by the Premier and as a corollary against every form of lawlessness, and concludes by saying that if Mahatma Gandhi's future action is to be judged by his past, chances of successful issue of the forthcoming conversations between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin are poor indeed.

ADVOCATE OF STRONG GOVT. AGAIN

The "Statesman" editorially draws attention to the letter of Sir Sankaran Nair and after supporting him in his view that public opinion must be mobilised against every form of lawlessness states "Mahatma Gandhi may try to stir the country into further spasm of anarchy, but, the country is now weary and mistrustful and in the presence of a great liberal constitutional policy, the agitation, if firmly dealt with is bound to collapse. But let there be no more trifling with law. At present, the moral leadership of India rests with Lord Irwin, who was resister race pride which exists (we are not concerned to deny it) in his own people and it is true instinct which makes Mahatma Gandhi seek enlightment from him." It is amidst such conflicting counsels that the interview which Lord Irwin has fixed for Gandhiji this afternoon takes place at the Viceroy's House.

MAHATMA REAHES DR. ANSARI'S HOUSE

But Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jayakar and Mr. Sastri are not quite optimistic nor are they pessimistic either. Mahatma Gandhi for his part avoided all demonstrations this morning, when he outmanoeuvred the crowds at the railway station by quietly getting down at Ghaziabad and motoring to Shahdara and therefrom having a long morning walk to Dr. Ansari's house on the banks of the Jumna.

Dr. Ansari has gone to Bhopal to attend the Nawab, who is suffering from some kidney trouble. Mr. G. D. Birla requested Gandhiji to stay at his house in New Delhi, but Gandhiji preferred Dr. Ansari's residence.

MORE HOPEFUL OUTLOOK

Governors Kept Waiting Outside

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

Before Mahatma Gandhi left to meet the Viceroy, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jayakar and Mr. Sastri met him and prepared him for the interview. Mahatma Gandhi thereafter went to bed and took rest. When he rose in the afternoon he was persuaded not to walk the whole distance to the Viceroy's House.

So he motored up to the Memorial Gateway and there alighted and walked half a mile on the quiet road. Then he again got into a car and reached the Viceroy's House fifteen minutes earlier than the scheduled time, thereby escaping the photographers, who had all timed their activities according to the scheduled hour.

The Viceroy did not allow Mr. Gandhi to wait, and at once started conversations in his official study. Mahatma Gandhi's arrival had created a stir in the Secretariat and the Viceroy's House, where numerous employees stood in the court yard to have a look at Mahatma Gandhi.

GIVE AND TAKE.

Conversations began at 2-30 p.m. and no one beside the two entered the room. It was not till 5 p.m. that the Viceroy sent for tea. By now both the Governors of Bombay and Madras had returned, but found the Viceroy engaged. It seems after tea the conversations which had till then been of a general character, settled to definite issues, in order to mark the process of give and take.

This continued till 6-10, when Mahatma found himself in a difficult position. He was in the thick of these discussions which did not permit of an easy wrench, while he had the alternative of having to starve himself.

GOOD-BYE!

At 6-10 the door of the Viceroy's study opened and with a "good night" the Viceroy wished Mahatma Gandhi good-bye.

Soon his car came and Mahatma Gandhi got into it. The special correspondent of the Associated Press who appoached him for an interview was told "We will continue our talks tomorrow, but if I stay any longer, I will have to starve myself".

REACHES IN TIME.

So the car dashed forth on its return journey and now began a race between the car and the setting sun. Hardly had Mahatma Gandhi travelled half the distance when the road lights were put on. He, however, managed to reach his residence in time.

SASTRI LEFT BEHIND.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jayakar and Mr. Sastri, who had been waiting for him since 4 p.m. took only 5 minutes, after which the first two left, only Mr. Sastri remaining behind.

The general impression was that the talks had begun well and that there was every hope that the same spirit of give and take would continue to-morrow. Gandhiji looked cheerful, though somewhat anxious to see that the issues struck were settled to-morrow satisfactorily to both sides.—A. P.

CUSTOMS HOUSE PICKETED.

A posse of lathi police guarded the entrance of Customs House on Tuesday when successful picketing by women and men volunteers prevented any bidder to get an entry.

Miss Leila Row Takes Congress Colours To Delhi Tennis Court.

BOMBAY STAR'S ACTION ANGERS WHITE SPECTATORS

In the course of Tennis Tournament notes in Delhi the "Chronicle" (Delhi) writes:—

Miss Leila Row is a newcomer to Delhi and although her Indian following was large and most enthusiastic, I think she antagonised a good many people by advertising her political views so blatantly by wearing a Gandhi cap and the Congress colours on her jumper. The rumour went round that she was clad all in khaddar and perhaps that is why she appeared so singularly ill at ease with the smart silk stockings which she wore for the first time on the final day!

5 Amritsar Youths Jailed

AMRITSAR, Feb. 17.

Mr. Anderson, Sessions Judge of Amritsar, convicted Narain, Sushil Kumar Sen, Aryamuni Gupta, Rajsingh and Moola, five youngmen under Sections 395, 120-B and 399 I. P. C. (conspiracy with intent to prepare for and commit dacoites) and sentenced Narain and Rajsingh to 2½ years' rigorous imprisonment, Moola to 1½ years' Aryamuni and Sushilkumar to one year each under each of the two Sections. Sentences will run concurrently. Bose, the approver, was releasod while orders respecting the other approver Jairam Singh, who had retracted his statements were reserved.—A. P.

MRS. J. SHUKLA JAILED.

'Sholapur Day' Echo At Surat.

SURAT, February 17.

Mr. Shaikh, City Magistrate, has passed judgment in the case against Mrs. Jytosna Shukla, President, Vidhyathi Sangh, a prominent social worker of Surat, and Sjt. Mohanlal Chokhavala Secretary, Students' Association, charged, under section 188, with defying an order under section 144 on Sholapur Convicts Day.

The Magistrate sentenced Mrs. Shukla to two months' simple imprisonment and Sjt. Chokhavala to two months' rigorous imprisonment.

Mrs. Jyotsna Shukla was also charged before the same Magistrate under section 117 I.P.C. and 17 Crimnal Law Amendment Act with inciting people to break the Ordinance by issuing leaflets as President of the Students' Association which it was alleged was doing Congress work.

On the latter charge the Magistrate held the accused not guilty as the Students' Association had not been declared unlawful by the Government but on the first charge he convicted Mrs. Shukla to four months' simple imprisonment.—A. P.

POLITICAL SUFFERERS' CONFERENCE.

Questionnaire At Bijapur.

(From A Correspondent.)

BIJAPUR, February 17.

It is decided to convene the Bijapur District Political Sufferers' Conference on Friday the 27th instant at Bijapur. All political prisoners recently released and other sufferers in the cause of the country are requested to attend the conference. A questionnaire regarding treatment in various jails is being issued. Sjt. Karmarkar of Dharwar is touring Bijapur District.

Olavakkot Foreign Cloth Picketing.

(From Our Correspondent.)

OLAVAKKOT, February 17.

Picketing at the foreign cloth shop of Venku Iyers' was restarted on Monday. Sjt. Padmanabhan Nair who entered the shop requesting the shop owner not to sell foreign cloth was necked out. Some students were persuaded to go away without purchasing foreign cloth. Thereafter police came and took Sjt. Nair away on his refusal to accompany them without warrent.

NAGPUR LEADERS JAILED.

"Maharashtra" Editor's Trial.

The trial of Mr. Ogale, Editor "Maharashtra", charge sedition commenced to-day before Mr. Deosker.

Mr. Taylor, District Superintendent of Police was examined for prosecution.

BOYCOTT OFFICERS JAILED

Mr. Vachasunder, Secretary Boycott Committee, Mr. Vakil, Secretary War Council and Sjt. Hemchand, Congress worker were sentenced each to six months' R. I. and fined Rs. 100.

One Deshsevika Srimati Rukhmabai has sentenced to four months' simple imprisonment.

Balapur Congress Worker Arrested Soon After Release

(From A Correspondent.)

AKOLA, February 17.

Sjt. Hiralal Shah of Balapur who was released only fortnight ago after serving his six months' term of imprisonment under section 117 has been arrested at Balapur under 11th Ordinance. Some more workers are reported to have been arrested in the mofussil under the same Ordinance.

PROMINENT NADIAD CONGRESS WORKERS ARRESTED.

(From A Correspondent.)

NADIAD, Feb. 16.

On Sunday Sjt. Shivabhai Gokalbhai Patel, the Secretary of the Nadiad Taluka Congress Committee and Sjt. Mohanlal Kameshver Pandya, a prominent worker of Kaira District since the Kaira Satyagraha movement of 1918 were arrested for meetings arranged in memory of Pandit Motilalji at Nadiad and Borsad respectively. Sjt. Shivabhai was in the first batch of Mahatmaji and has already suffered imprisonment once. Sjt. Pandya was released only the previous day from Nasik Prison after serving a sentence for 12 months.

YOUNG BOYS ARRESTED.

On the 12th inst. two young boys aged about 13 years were arrested from Tranja (Matar) while they were coming back fom the fields after picking up cotton. One boy was released late in the noon but the other was carried to Matar from where he was also sent back with a word of warning from the Mamlatdar to the Police-Patel not to arrest such boys anymore.

"Sunday Chronicle"

Special Number

Notice To Agents And Advertisers.

The "Sunday Chronicle", dated March 22nd, 1931, will be issued as a special edition, in view of the forthcoming CONGRESS SESSION. It will be profusely illustrated and will contain several Original and Thought-provoking Articles by Eminent Contributors.

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PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Khandesh	2,689	bales.
Central India	2,368	,,
Barsi-Nugger	1,219	,,
Hyderabad-Gaorani	404	,,
Berar	4,053	,,
Central Provinces	3,358	,,
Dhollera	1,589	,,
Sind-Punjab	215	,,
Broach	2,143	,,
Egyptians	4,231	,,
Cotton	23,272	,,
Wheat	1,735	cwts.
Linseed	4,699	,,
Rape, Rai and Mustard-seeds	1,673	,,
Gingellyseeds	653	,,
Groundnuts	22,650	,,
Castorseeds	15,569	,,
Rice	1,546	,,
Myrabollams	3,129	,,
Cottonseeds	11,993	,,
Gram	311	,,
Joowar	235	,,
Bajree	179	,,
Coal	103	tons.

HUGE LANDSIDE IN RAILWAY EARNINGS

:o:

(Continued from page 12.)

the net earnings from which cannot in the first few years of their existence be expected to cover their interest charges. It must also be borne in mind that in making this estimate we are allowing for a moderate increase in traffic. We have, I admit, set railways a difficult task but we feel confident that the railways and their staff are prepared and willing to shoulder the burden. It is our hope that the general public will realise that they also must be called upon to bear a certain portion of the burden. It will not be possible to give them certain luxuries which are taken as a matter of course in days of prosperity; but we can assure them that despite the efforts which we are making to cut down expenditure, no reduction will be allowed if it entails a lesser degree of ty for the travelling public than they have reason to expect at present. Reductions in expenditure of the magnitude which I have forecasted, must mean of necessity restrictive rationing of, staff on all railways. It will also mean that every man will have to do a little extra; but as I have said before, there is no fear that our staff will not loyally support the railway administrations in their efforts to effect the necessary economies. There are two items of expenditure over which we have no control. Under the rules governing the transactions of the Depreciation Fund 37 lakhs more than last year have to be placed to the credit of the fund from revenue. Also with an increase in capital our interest charges increase.

To sum up, we anticipate that our total receipts from commercial lines will be 101 crores 2 lakhs, or 5 crores 69 lakhs better than last year; while our charges ought to be 97 crores 85 lakhs, or 41 lakhs less than the current year. If our estimates prove correct we should obtain a surplus from commercial lines of 3 crores 17 lakhs, as against a loss of 2 crores 93 lakhs for the current year. Deducting 1 crore 96 lakhs from the surplus to meet the loss on strategic lines we are left with a balance of 1 crore 21 lakhs. Our contribution to general revenues next year will be 5 crores 36 lakhs; to meet this we shall again have to draw on our reserves to the extent of 4 crores 15 lakhs, reducing the balance to 1 crore 33 lakhs at the end of the year. Again, however, the Depreciation Fund gives a more cheerful picture, and we anticipate that it will stand at 21 crores 47 lakhs on the 31st March 1932. As I shall explain later, we only expect to withdraw 8 crores 25 lakhs next year against 13 crores 43 lakhs paid in from revenue according to the rules of the Fund.

IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICE CONDITIONS.

Before I turn to the programme of works, there are one or two subjects which I should like to mention to the Council.

During the current year we have been able to make considerable head-way with a number of schemes of improvement in the service conditions of the staff. First, with regard to wages, the investigation started last year into the rates of pay of the lower employees has been concluded.

Next, as regards Hours of Work, it may be recalled that a bill amending the Indian Railways Act with a view to giving effect to the provisions of the Washington and Geneva Conventions was passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 27th February 1930 and by this House on the 19th March 1930.

The total cost of all these schemes for welfare and improvement in the service conditions of the staff is estimated to be 43 lakhs during the current year and 83 lakhs during the next year while the ultimate cost may mount up to a crore-and-a-half: over and above this recurring cost from revenue is the capital expenditure of 25 lakhs already incurred and a further 50 lakhs to be incurred during the next few years on the provision of quarters for the additional staff required to give effect to the Hours of Employment Regulations.

RE-EMPLOYMENT FOR G. I. P. R. STRIKERS.

In addition to the schemes referred to, which deal with welfare and improvements in the service conditions of the staff, we have had to deal with a number of staff questions, such as for instance, the introduction of the scheme of the reorganisation of superior cadres on State-managed railways, elimination of racial discrimination, representation of minority communities in the service, preparation of new rules for the recruitment and training of the subordinate staff and for their medical examination and the grant of medical certificates. Finally the question of the re-employment of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway ex-strikers of whom about 5,000 men are, according to the latest reports, still out of employment, continues to receive special attention and instructions have been issued to all the State-managed railways in India to give preference to them (including such of them as failed to offer for duty within the period prescribed in the Government of India Communique of March 1st 1930) in filling posts for which they may be qualified over outsiders.

As another instance of how economy can be effected by standardization I would mention the East Indian Railway Carriage Underframes Workshop at Tatanagar. Carriage underframes are being manufactured there to-day at considerably less cost than they can be purchased from any other source. This reduction has become possible due to quantity production following the introduction of standard designs of underframes purchased by all Railways, in lieu of the old practice in which each administration purchased underframes to their own particular designs.

We have continued the policy, which we introduced two years ago, of concentrating entirely on pushing schemes already in hand to completion, and the reduction in expenditure will not reduce the mileage of new lines opened or which we anticipated would be opened when we prepared the budget. The most important lines opened or which will be opened during this financial year are certain sections of the Raipur-Vizianagram Railway, a total length of about 56 miles, Unao-Madhoganj, Mahrabpur-Padidan, Pudukkottai-Manamadura, Mashrak-Thawe and Salem-Chinnasalem Railways, making a total mileage of just over 300 miles.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR.

Turning to open line works the most important events of the year were the completion of the Great Indian Peninsula Electrification from Bombay to Poona and Bombay to Igatpuri. This scheme is, I believe, the largest electrification scheme in British Empire, and, we hope very shortly to reap the full benefits in reductions in working expenses. We also opened during the year the new Central Station at Cawnpore and the new Central Station on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway at Bombay.

NARBANDDA BRIDGE SCHEME.

If our budget estimate last year was a modest one it is still more so this year.

more so this year. The only new work of any magnitude which it is proposed to take up during the year is the Narbadda Bridge on the main line of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway between Bombay and Delhi. The cost of this is estimated at 87 lakhs, and an allotment of 15 lakhs has been made. A weak bridge of this description affects the capacity of the whole section, and its renewal is overdue. The position at the end of the year will be that our commitments for completion of works will be reduced to 357 lakhs of which 46 lakhs will come from the Depreciation Fund. This, I think, the Council will agree is a satisfactory position.

I have done my best to place before the Council the principal figures of our revised budget for this year and those for the budget estimate for 1931-32. I do not claim that my review has been exhaustive or that I have mentioned everything that is of public interest, but this is impossible in the short time available and it would certainly be wearisome to the Council. I hope I have made it clear, however, that though we are passing through depressing times there is hope for the future and that Indian Railways will be in a position to meet the requirements of traffic when trade begins to improve.

RAILWAY BUDGET PRESENTED

:o:

Rahim—Gour Combine In Assembly

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.

The Assembly met to-day to hear the Railway Budget statement of Sir George Rainy which took over an hour to deliver. The House cheered Mr. K. C. Neogy, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, Sir Abdul Qayum and Mr. Hayman when they took the oath of allegiance to-day. Lobby talks in the Assembly showed that both Sir Hari Singh Gour and Sir Abdur Rahim were planning an early joint meeting of the Nationalists and Independents when resolutions would be drawn up reviewing the work of Round Table Conference and expressing the Assembly's demands with regard to the constitutional machinery that should replace the present Reforms Act.—A. P.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME CURTAILED

:o:

Sir George Rainy's Proposals

NEW DELHI, February 17.

Railway Estimates presented by Sir George Rainy in the Legislative Assembly to-day show railways working at a loss for the first time since Railway Revenues were separated from the General Revenues.

The Railway Board realise that unremitting attention to details of every item of expenditure, however small, will be necessary to secure reduction and that to keep expenditure within limits imposed will require constant supervision by the Railway Board, Agents, and principal officers and ungrudging co-operation from every railway official.

REDUCTION IN CAPITAL

The Capital Programme for the Railways in 1931-32 is still more restricted than in the current year, in which the total expenditure will be 23-1/2 crores of which 9 crores will be from the Depreciation Fund. The Railway Board explain that from the reduced sum, which it was possible to place at their disposal, it has been their first duty to provide adequately for the maintenance of the lines in a condition to carry traffic safely and economically and for the completion of works already begun including lines under construction. Amount of 290 lakhs allotted for new construction will, they expect, enable them to open all lines now being constructed for traffic, except the Sagaing Bridge in Burma, the Tangla Belsiri Railway in Assam and the portion beyond Sultanpur of the Lucknow Sultanpur Zafarabad Railway. On open line works also, expenditure has practically been confined to amounts required to carry to completion as quickly as possible work already in progress to keep the tract in proper condition for safe and efficient movement of traffic and to purchase only such rolling stock as is necessary to cope with the reduced traffic at present offering. Actual purchases of rolling stock have been reduced by the redistribution of existing stock between the various railways. The Railway Board have found themselves unable, in view of the high cost of borrowing at present, to propose the inception of any large new scheme, the completion of which would commit the Government of India to heavy expenditure in future years. Only exception is the Narbadda Bridge on the B. B. and C. I. Railway, of which the girders required urgent renewal. Total expenditure in 1931-32 on works in programme will be 21-3/4 of which 8-1/4 crores will be met from Depreciation Fund. Materials required to the extent of 2 crores will be found from existing stores. Balances and actual money required on capital account is only 11-1/2 crores.—A. P.

R. T. C SCHEME RESERVATIONS

:o:

(Continued from page 6.)

forward. The advantage, moreover, of Indian Government Loans ranking as Trustee securities in England is not so great for India as to induce it to agree to those restrictions of Treasury control in England, and previous sanction or approval by the British Treasury, before any loan can be floated in England, which would materially detract from the sovereignty of the Indian Dominion or of the Indian Commonwealth.

PREPOSTEROUS.

And, when similar restrictions are suggested in respect of borrowing at home, that is to say from the Indian lenders, the demand for similar safeguards, or for a reserve of authority in the Viceroy amounting to an absolute prescription of the terms of such borrowing, or of the rejection of any proposed borrowing programme, becomes preposterous in the extreme. The nature and extent of the borrowing powers of the future Government of the Commonwealth of India cannot be restricted by any agreement at the present time, since recourse to borrowing will be determined hereafter by the conditions that arise hereafter. No one can say at present exactly how much India will have to borrow, and for what purposes. And, therefore, it is unfair to tie down in advance the hands of the responsible Finance Minister of the future Commonwealth of India in regard to this most considerable weapon of developing the economic resources of this country. No consent can, therefore, be given to any limitation or restriction upon the borrowing powers of the Indian Government as regards the future.

(To be continued.)

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AMERICAN COTTON MARKETS

:o:

Strength Of Wall Street And Trade Buying

BOMBAY HOUSES SELLING OUT AT LIVERPOOL

Bombay, Feb. 17.

Yesterday the New York cotton tutures market was featureless. Prices fluctuated within a range of 7 points. There was absence of selling influenced by the strength of Wall Street and trade interests were reported buying. The market closed at a decline of 2 points to a rise of 2 points. Spot cotton prices closed unchanged at 10.95 c.

The New Orleans cotton futures market was quiet but steady and closed at a decline of 1 to 2 points with spot cotton 10.67 c.

The Liverpool cotton futures market opened steady at a decline of 2 points. There was absence of buying and Bombay Houses sold out their speculative purchases. This selling was followed by profit taking by bulls and the market displayed weak tone. Towards the close better New York advices and good spot business rallied prices. The market closed at a loss of 3 to 5 points. Middling American spot cotton prices advances 3 points to 5.96 and sales amounted to 4,000 bales.

Indian cotton futures ruled easy and closed at a loss of 7 points with May 4.67 nad July 4.77.

Egyptian Sakel futures declined 12 points on liquidation but Alexandria March closed at a gain of 10 points at 17.77.

REUTER'S LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW.

Spot cotton has been in moderate request this week. In Futures, trading has been rather more active, in which both Bombay and the Continent have been predominating features. Yesterday prices advanced on the termination of the lock-out in spite of fairly large straddle selling, but the market today was somewhat uncertain.

After being steady, the Egyptian section eased on less satisfactory advices from Alexandria.

REUTER'S MANCHESTER CLOTH AND YARNS REVIEW.

Cloth: The decision to call off the lock-out and reopen the mills on Monday is welcomed, and with no hindrance to deliveries, it is hoped that a larger number of enquiries, especially from India (which so far have been unproductive), will lead to better success. The position as regards China remains without change. From other sources there has been only a small miscellaneous offtake, although trading with the Continent has been more in evidence.

Yarns: The advance in prices for raw material brought out increased enquiry, but with producers adopting a somewhat firmer attitude, the turn-over has been only on a moderate scale.

In the Egyptian section, apart from folded descriptions, demand has continued to be limited.

Several private cables are received here that large orders are sent from this country to Lancashire. As a matter of fact these orders appears either imaginary or perhaps were so small that they were useless as a market factor. Lancashire's mill industry has dwindled down to such an extent that lock-out had no effect on cotton prices and now the mills have resumed work, but there is improvement in prices. In past years Lancashire's cotton consumption always had a good effect on the prices of cotton, but to-day nobody cares to know whether these mills are locked or otherwise. Lancashire has lost most of its trade in India and China, and at present there are no prospects of reviving the same. Both countries have suffered heavily owing to drastic decline in silver.

PRIVATE CABLES.

N. Y. March Highest 10.90 (12 noon); Lowest 10.83 (10-4 a.m.).

Messrs. Patel Brothers have received the following cables from their Liverpool Agents cabled on the 16th instant:—

3-40 p.m.—Smaller market more easily influenced either ways. Looks like market may go lower temporarily. If we are correct expect Sakel decline more rapidly.

Reuter's cable.—Market was quiet but firm on the absence of selling, influenced by the strength of Wall Street and trade buying.

APPROXIMATE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MARKETS.

Liverpool May (Expected) equal to 5.87; Broach A-M (Expected) Rs. 212 equal to 4.81. Difference 106 points equal to Rs. 47.

New York May (Close) 11.13 equal to 5.57; Broach A-M (Expected) Rs. 212 equal to 4.81. Difference 76 points equal to Rs. 34.

Liverpool-New York (at Liverpool close): May 60, October 52 (American points).

Messrs. Chunilal Mehta and Co. have received to-day the following cable information from their Foreign friends:—

Liverpool.—America cables, cotton cloth sales better than February last year.

Liverpool.—Market declined in sympathy with Stock Exchange. There is an uneasy feeling in the market owing to unfavourable political situation. Market feels that there is too much cotton.

New York.—Market quiet featureless. Steady undertone.

LIVERPOOL WHEAT.

March 4s. 5d. up 5/8d.
May 4s. 5d. up 7/4d.
July 4s. 6-3/8d. up 3/4d.

CHICAGO WHEAT.

March Dols. 79-1/8 unchanged.
May Dols. 82-1/4 down 3/8.
July Dols. 68-1/8 down 1-1/8.

NEW YORK SUGAR.

May 131 up 1.
July 139 up 1.
September 147 up 1.
Market quiet.

ARGENTINE LINSEED.

Market closed.

Wheat Cable (Chicago):—

Prices declined on favourable weather, bearish visible supply and lower Winnipeg market. Closed easy.

Cable from London:—

Argentine Government estimate Wheat 65,50,000 tons. Exportable surplus 39,94,000 tons.

Linseed: 17,50,000 tons. Exportable surplus 12,64,000 tons.

NEW YORK COTTON.
New York, Feb. 16.

March	10.85	—.02
May	11.13	plus .01
July	11.37	—
October	11.66	plus .02
December	11.66	—.01
Middling Spot	10.95	—

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.
New York, Feb. 16.

March	10.88	—.02
May	11.14	—.01
Middling Spot	10.67	—

NEW YORK.
New York, Feb. 16.

New York: 10-55 a.m. (As known in Liverpool at closing time):—

March	10.87
May	11.14
July	11.39

New York: Noon Call:—

March	10.88
May	11.15
July	10.40

NEW YORK COTTON DAILY STATISTICS.
New York, Feb. 16.

Day's Receipts at all U. S. Ports 15,000 bales.

Day's Exports to Great Britain Nil.

Day's Exports to the Continent 24,000 bales.

LIVERPOOL COTTON.
Liverpool, Feb. 16.

	Opening.	Closing.	
February		5.73	—.03
March	5.82	5.77	—.03
April		5.82	—.07
May	5.92	5.87	—.07
June		5.92	—.07
July	6.01	5.98	—.06
August		6.03	—.05
September		6.06	—.05
October	6.14	6.09	—.06
November		6.13	—.06
December		6.18	—.06
January		6.21	—.05
February		6.25	—.05
Middling Spot		5.96 pl.	.03

LIVERPOOL COTTON SALES.
Liverpool, Feb. 16.

Estimated Spot Sales 4,000 bales.

Sales for Export 100 bales.

Sales of East Indian Cotton 250 bales.

INDIAN COTTON.
Liverpool, Feb. 16.

Broach, Fully Good (Good Staple)	4.56
Broach, Fint (Good Staple)	4.76
Groach, Superfine (Good Staple)	4.96
Oomra, Good	3.91
Oomra, Fully Good	4.11
Oomra, Fine	4.31
Bengal, Good	3.76
Bengal, Fully Good	3.91
Bengal, Fine	4.06
Scinde, Fully Good	3.91
Scinde, Fine	4.06
Scinde, Superfine	4.21

EGYPTIAN COTTON.
Liverpool, Feb. 16.

March	8.96
May	9.03
July	9.17
September	9.29
October	9.32
November	9.32
January	9.52
Sakellaridis F.G.F. Spto	9.55

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ONE MORE "IMMORTEL."

THE GALLANT PANDIT IS DEAD: LONG LIVE THE PANDIT.

(By "CASIMIR JEUNE".)

While it is impossible to add a single word on to the string of words woven with the nervous, grief-stricken fingers of my friend and colleague, the usually anonymous "M. A. B.", even when the unique privilege of having known and "served" the late Pandit Motilal Nehru cannot be claimed with him, one would feel unhappy if a little "immortelle' was not placed on the grave of the nation's idol and hero.

LAST OF THE SAMURAI.

The wreath of "immortelles", the sorrow-laden words of praise, the many sad, brilliant and moving memories of an exceptionally attractive personality, these and many another expression of a mourning nation's love for and gratitude towards the dead leader of Indian nationalism are, one feels, a very inadequate measure indeed of the emotion that millions of hearts must be experiencing at this moment. Some of us refuse to believe, like my friend "M. A. B.", with the stubbornness of extreme sentimentalism, that Motilalji is dead, that he could ever die, not because we could be so irrational as to question the mortality of human race but because we cannot reconcile our consciousness to the brutal, almost tragic, fact of death with reference to a man who was perhaps the last member amongst some old-world 'Samurai'. When we call him 'a prince', that term has no reference to the wealth he possessed and spent with a truly princely (in the old-world sense of the adjective) exuberance: it merely expresses an impression that is inevitably produced (one almost lingers over the present tense) on those who caught the faintest glimpse of his brilliant personality. Would could be vulgar and even in certain circumstances, worse than vulgar, as the Pandit demonstrated by shaking it away out of his aristocratic fingers. He possessed not only the material wealth but the rarer wealth of a noble nature, of intellect, of that big, responsive heart of his; and he gave it all away with the magnificence of an old-world aristocrat. He gave it all in exchange for a beautiful dream—his country's freedom. He was an idealist, the 'creme dela creme' of antique and vanished aristocracy.

A MEMORY AND PRAISE.

One likes to evoke the easy vision of his visible personality that floats on the surface of the well of our memories. One likes to foster the legend of his Parisian linen because it takes on the colours of his rich personality. The refinement and poise, the grandeur and grace, the evidence of a truly patrician culture—these seemed combined in the figure of the Pandit as he stood there on a Bombay platform, many years ago. He was every inch an aristocrat with his simple, white Khadi 'kurta' and that smartly-tilted Gandhi cap of his. The Pandit's speech had a style in it that one seeks for, in vain, in lesser men. It was persuasive and dignified, eloquent and spontaneous. His gestures, as he moved, were those of a man who would walk the assemblies of State with the same composure and grace that brought such lustre to the Naini Tal Jail. Pride sat on those compressed, sensitive lips of his and one trembled for the fate of that fiery spirit that burnt in that solitary—cold man. The dead Pandit's was the solitude, like Gandhi's, that only an Ibsen could penetrate and a Romain Rolland praise: his coldness was the lion's coldness, so soft and terrible, of tread His jail-life was a tragedy of a nation's humiliating position: we could have pleaded for the old man to be spared that ordeal if we were not convinced of the existence of that defensive armour of his soul.

LOVE OF COUNTRY.

He was a fond parent, we are told, and pampered his son. It may well be true.But his love for his son is characteristic of his personality: it possessed the same intensity that gives such glamour to his pure patriotism. He would talk of 'my boy.....' with such rare pride and surge of parental love. But may not this love have something to do with the elder Pandit's love of his country which his equally worthy and lovable son exemplified so brilliantly? His son's suffering must have strained the stoic quality of the loving parent's love: if so, the old man bore his suffering in silence. His was the courage of pride, so noble, so rare. It has carved a whole nation's love and gratitude which one finds entombed with such strange pathos and delicacy of love in millions of sad eyes to-day. We uncover our heads in memory of that noble, proud head with its exquisite poise and shape; we bow our heads in mute eloquence of our sad and heavy hearts; and, as we place a little "immortelle" on the great man's grave, with trembling and grief heavy fingers, we turn our faces and wipe tears of a bereaved son or daughter. The tired pilgrim who is gathered unto the dusk and glory of silence is beyond our tears: death brought him peace and glory of martyrdom in termination of a colourful and tempestuous lifetime. The gallant Pandit is dead: long live the Pandit!

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CULT OF THE UNBEAUTIFUL.

—:o:—

CAUSERIE ON THE AESTHETICS OF PILLION-RIDING

—:o:—

(By "PROMENEUR.")

The sight of a daughter of the Deccan riding the motor-cycle pillion 'astride' is probably as rare as it is shocking even to the hardened 'habitue' of the metropolitan streets of this city: and incredible as it may sound, it was my singular misfortune to have my high-strung susceptibilities assailed by this extremely unbeautiful spectacle, for some time past.

MAN, WOMAN AND MACHINE

I have not the least objection to young ladies riding pillions of solo bikes and would not care to raise the most casual eyebrow if our young, sporting females made a fashion of these passive joy-rides. I should perhaps prefer, if my opinions were of any consequence at all, the slower if safer push bike riding: it is ever so much more graceful, too, besides being a source of both pleasure and health. The fair rider may not only have a fine pair of calves but even derive general benefit to health. The graceful female form gliding along on a pair of mobile heels appears to me a poem in motion: it is almost an idyll in picturequeness that brings out the charm of carriage and posture. But the push-bike is regarded, I am afraid as late-Victorian and is frowned at as 'prehistoric' by certain individuals whom I frankly regard as monsters in modernity and whose machine-inspired enthusiasm leaves me positively cold. The push-bike strikes, in my view, the golden-mean between man and machine; and I can quite understand and sympathise with the journalistic literary tradition of the wheel that A. E. C. P. Scott and the late C. E. Montague fostered with the charm of their romantic, rare personalities. It is actually an institution not only of suburbia but also of the traffic-congested city with its vulgar taxi-cars, motor-cars and coaches. Henley's gallant lines of a master of my destiny, captain of my soul, lend themselves with happy facility as a symbol of the call of the push-bike wheel.

PSYCHOLOGY.

But riding the easily-propelled simple push-bike or even the purely machinistic auto-bike is one thing; and riding the pillion astride is another. It may or may not be harmful to health; but I do emphatically object to it because a woman is the least woman ly when she succumbs to its braggadocio. The woman who hugs on to the springing, thumping pillion of the kicking auto-bike is an abortion in essential feminity: worse. she is a hopeless robot that stands for decadence and death of beauty of that subtle, sacred charm that woman radiates out of her personality. I can understand the post-War cult of the "Wandervogel," even that of "la mode de la nudite," of course. on its intellectual side. Give me the smooth-bodied female with athletic frame and power in her strong little wrist. She may swing her rackets, box and bank the male ears and jaws; give me a real hundred per cent. amazon who would never blush; give me the female in whom sex is dried up. I can understand each of the types and make due allowance to its characteristics. But the cult of the unbeautiful which some of our fair-ones practise is truly revolting. What is the fun of riding the pillion astride that is not only so unlady-like but offers the clearest proof of the obsession of male-complex? It is both unmanly and unwomanly; it lacks in any character; there is neither any taste or grace in it. Woman is never so ugly as when she tries to ape the man's outward personality. But thank God, this decadent cult has an extremely small following!

TWO VISITS TO KHAIRPUR

—:o:—

To the Editor of The "Chronicle."

Sir,—It was in the year 1928 that I happened to pay my first visit to Khairpur during my tours in Sind. At that time, Kot Diji, the ancient Capital of the State, was over-crowded with guests, having arrived from various States and British Provinces in connection with the circumscision ceremony of the young Prince Mir Faiz Mohammad Khan Talpur, Heir-Apparent of the State. The Prince was then about 14 years of age and had just returned from the Mayo College, Ajmer which he had joined a few months ago.

I know several States intimately and have seen something of the world and can say from my own experience that no human institution is free from some sort of intrigue. Accordingly States also are full of intrigues—in certain respects worse than the British India. But Khairpur is the worst as far as the intrigues are concerned; because His Highness the Ruler has only one son and heir. Chiefly due to this reason that the young Prince, I was told, was extraordinarily looked after and cared for so much so that to my great astonishment, I found that the Prince was treated and brought up like a baby till he was sent to the College.

Again after a lapse of four years, I visited Khairpur for the second time and when I saw the Prince, he was quite different to what he was in 1926. The education and general training, he received at the Mayo College has totally changed the Prince. Besides being naturally intelligent, he speaks English, mixes with people freely, rides, shoots very well, plays all modern games and walks miles even on a Hill. I was simply amazed to see the Prince, delivering a speech in English most fluently and boldly without the least shyness at his Birthday Darbar, in reply to various addresses of congratulations, presented to him by several bodies—official as well as non-official. He again made a speech at the annual Prize Distribution to the students of the Naz High School. I give below, abstracts of both the speeches:—

During the four years of my life—in fact my real life has commenced since I went to the Mayo College—this is the first occasion for me to make a public speech before so many of you, learned and experienced people. I therefore hope that you will not expect me to make a long speech and will overlook my shortcomings.

Gentlemen, I have listened most attentively to what Mr. Sawhney has said to me by way of advice and I assure you that I have been doing and shall always do my best to prove myself worthy of the position, I am destined to inherit in future. It will be my endeavours to care more for the happiness and prosperity of our people than my ownself. I thank Mr. Sawhney for his advice.

Gentlemen, I thank you all very much for the congratulations and for the trouble, you all have, so kindly taken in coming to this Darbar, held to celebrate the occasion of my birthday.

I feel very much embarrased to speak before this distinguished gathering this afternoon. But as a dutiful son, I have no choice but to obey the command of His Highness, my revered father. I hope, however, you all will overlook my shortcomings.

I have listened to Mr. Principal who has just given the detailed account of the educational activities in the state and which has given me great pleasure. I hope and trust that as soon as the state finances improve, His Highness, as you all know, being a patronizer and lover of education, will, no doubt, support, the idea of the establishment of a College. Let us all pray for the fulfillment of this—our cherished desire.

Gentlemen, Mr. Sawhney seems to have taken keen interest in the betterment and progress of the Educational department. I congratulate Mr. Sawhney for the pains, he has taken and thank him on behalf of His Highness and the public of the state.

As a student, I hope, you realize that it is too much for me to offer my remarks with regard to what Mr. Memon has said. But I would like to say and say at least with great satisfaction that the Naz High School has not lagged behind in imparting the physical training also. In my humble opinion, health must receive all considerations in the first instance because an unhealthy mind cannot achieve any thing in the world.

Mr. Principal, I thank you very much for the kind words, you have spoken about me. I am yet a mere student and have to learn many things in the world. But I assure you that I will do all I can to be able to fulfill the onerous duties, I am destined to undertake in future, God-willing.

Before I resume my seat, I would like to recommend to Mr. Principal to grant one day's holiday to all the students and will also kindly take the trouble of distributing sweets to the student on my behalf for which I give Rs. 100/- from my own pocket money.—Yours etc.,

N. K.

BETWEEN OURSELVES.

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PUNDIT MOTILAL'S FIRST CONVICTION

His Trial Recalled

The trial of Pundit Motilal Nehru in 1921, was, like that of the late Deshabandhu C. R. Das, which was held about the same time, one which concerned the violation of an emergency measure passed by the Government during the first Non-Cooperation movement. Among the various drastic steps taken by the Government to combat the movement, the declaring as unlawful of the Congress organisation and the National Volunteer corps were the most conspicuous. Pundit Motilal was charged under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, for signing the volunteers' pledge, a document, which by itself was harmless, but, was considered offensive as pertaining to a body which had been declared unlawful, writes "N.B." in "Hindu."

Although there was nothing peculiar or noteworthy in the cause, manner or he legal aspects of the trial proper, the fact that Punditjee was one of the most revered leaders of the nation, coupled with the dramatic seizure at a rush of all the male members of his family, during a critical period in the history of India, when two most important events happened to clash with each other, viz., the visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales and the Non-Co-operation movement at its full height—endows the trial with a historical significance worthy of a permanent record.

His Royal Highness was due to visit Allahabad on the 12th of December, 1921, and great preparations were being made both by the Government and the Congress, each according to their respective programme, the one to present him a sumptuous welcome and the other to effect a complete hartal on that day in the city. On the 5th of December, Mr. Knox, the District Magistrate of Allahabad, wrote an official letter to Punditjee, in the course of which, he laid down certain conditions for the latter to comply with on the day of the Prince's visit, which, the Pundit declined to accept as authority. He was arrested on the following day along with his son, Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, his two nephews Pundits Shyamlal and Mohanlal Nehrus, and several others including Messrs. George Joseph, the then editor of the "Independent", Kamaluddin Jaffri of the Khilafat organisation and Purushotamdas Tandon, Chairman of the Allahabad Municipality. We shall quote the Pundit's own words regarding the manner of his arrest, from a speech which he delivered subsequent to his release from prison.

"A few days before the Prince's visit, I received an extraordinary communication from the D. M. of Allahabad. It was accompanied with all the dignity and paraphernalia of magisterial authority. We had been in the habit of corresponding with one another in the usual manner and our letters were sent through the usual messengers, but, on this occasion, an open letter was brought by a police Sub-Inspector, in which, I was called upon to make certain dispositions of my own grounds, such as the closing of the gates at a particular time, the admission of visitors, etc. I told the Magistrate in reply that he had no authority with the use of my own property in any way I chose, so long as such use was lawful and proper, but assured him that as a Non-co-operator it was my duty to see that no harm befell his Royal Highness and that no disrespect was offered to him during his visit to Allahabad. For this assurance, I was rewarded by being arrested with my son and nephews and a number of other co-workers a couple of days later. The Prince came in due course and you gave appropriate response by observing the greatest of all hartals in India in connection with the visit."

Pundit Motilal Nehru was arrested in his house by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, and an Inspector, who were also armed with warrants for the search of his house. Pundit Jawaharlal was arrested under a warrant issued by the D.M. of Lucknow, where he was taken for trial. The premises of the "Ananda Bhawan", the provincial Congress Committee and the Khilafat Committee were also searched and several registers taken away. The copy of the volunteers' pledge in triplicate, was found in the cours of the search with the signature of Pundit Motilal Nehru.

The trial was opened on the 7th December inside the District Jail of Allahabad, before Mr. Knox, the District Magistrate. Mr. L. M. Banerjea, the Government Advocate, opened the case for the prosecution. The first case taken up was against Mr. George Joseph, for an article which appeared in the "Independent" in its issue of the 26th November and he was charged for "abetment of persons to assist in the operations of an unlawful assembly", Mr. Joseph, as a Non-Co-operator, declined to answer. The next case was against Mr. Kamaluddin Jaffri. He too refused to answer questions put to him.

The third was Punditjee's turn. He was shown a copy of the "Independent" with the objectionable article by Mr. Knox. But he refused to answer questions or take any part in the trial, explaining his attitude by saying that "he was not before the court, but before the agent of the bureaucracy which was his country's enemy." The volunteers' pledge with the Pundit's signature was then produced before the court by Mr. Kotwal, who deposed to the search of his house and discovery of the document.

The other accused also gave identical statements. The trial was extremely formal, unrelieved by any noteworthy occurrence. All the accused were charged under Section 17 (1) of the C. L. A. Act. The case against Pundits Shyamlal and Mohanlal Nehrus was adjourned at the request of the Government Advocate. Judgment was delivered against the other accused at 10 p.m. on the same day.

Mr. George Joseph was sentenced to undergo 18 months' simple imprisonment and pay a fine of Rs. 1,000 or, in default, to undergo a further term of 3 months S.I., the Magistrate remarking that, he thought it necessary to levy a fine which should be light in relation to the journal, but heavy for the accused. Mr. Purushotamdas Tandon was also sentenced to 18 months' simple imprisonment, and pay a fine of Rs. 250. Mr. Kamaluddin Jaffri was sentenced to 6 months' simple imprisonment, and a fine of Rs. 100.

In delivering judgment on Pundit Motilal Nehru, the Magistrate observed that "he found that in signing the pledge, the accused committed an offence under Section 17 (1) of the C.L.A. Act. The offence was a deliberate one and committed with full consciousness of its illegality. It was clearly direct defiance of Government." Punditjee was sentenced to undergo a term of 6 months' simple imprisonment and pay a fine of Rs. 500. The accused were immediately removed in cars and taken to different jails. Punditjee was taken to Lucknow Central Jail.

On the eve of his entering into the jail, Pundit Motilal Nehru gave the following message to his comrades:—

"Having served you to the best of my ability,, while working amongst you, it is now my high privilege to serve the Motherland by going to jail with my only son. What shall I say of him to you, who know him so well? I am fully confident that we shall meet again at no distant date as free men. I have only one parting word to say. Continue non-violent non-co-operation without a break until Swaraj is attained and enlist as volunteers in your tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands. Let the march of pilgrims to the only temple of liberty now existing in India, which has escaped sacrilege at the hands of the bureaucracy, viz the jail, be kept in an uninterrupted stream, swelling in strength and volume as each day passes. "Adieu."

Pundit Mohanlal and Shyamlal Nehrus were each sentenced to six months' simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100.

We cannot close this account of the Punditjee's trial, without a quotation from "Young India", dated the 8th December, 1921, in which Mahatma Gandhi wrote of him when he heard news of his arrest, which admirably sums up the man and the patriot in him.

"I had not expected Punditjee's arrest. In our discussions, I used to tell Punditjee that he would be the last to be arrested. Sir Harcourt Butler would not have the courage to lay hands upon him. His friend the Raja Saheb of Muhmudabad, would decline to remain in office if he was arrested. I marvel at Sir Harcourt Butler's philosophic courage. Punditjee has been working at tremendous odds. He has been battling against his old enemy—Asthma. I know that he has never worked for his rich clients, nor even for the afflicted Punjab, as he has slaved for pauper India. I have pleaded with him to take rest. He has refused to do so. I rejoice to think that he will now have respite from the toil that was wearing him out."

Indian Historical Records Commission.

—:o:—

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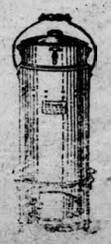

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Yamagata ,,	3807	20 Feb.	2 Mar.
Terukuni ,,	12000	....	8 Mar.
Mito ,,	7061	25 Feb.	1 Mar.
xIyo ,,	5962	27 Feb.	13 Mar.
Hakusan ,,	10500	....	@24 Mar.
*Tokiwa ,,	6972	18 Mar.	31 Mar

*Do not carry passengers.
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(a)From Colombo.

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TamatsuMaru	17th ,,	25th ,,
Meiko Maru	21st ,,	26th ,,
Shunko Maru	24th ,,	9th Mar.

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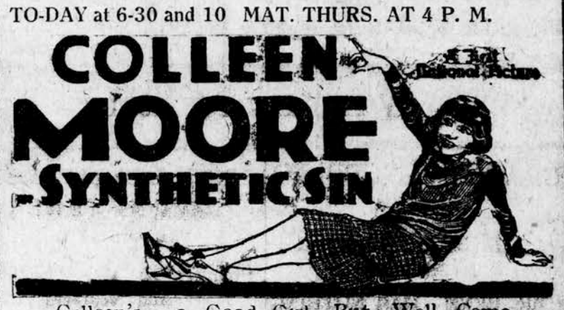

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Feb. 17.
Hilda, Tarabochia, Trieste
Tottori Maru, Mudu, Kobe
DEPARTURES.
Feb. 18.
Nalgera, Kingcome, Rangoon
Barjora, Tille, Busreh
Delhi, Poleson, Calcutta
Forthbank, Minno, Calcutta
Clan Ogilory, Brockebank, Antwerp.

LOADING.
Feb. 17.
Steamer Zottori Maru for Kobe
Steamer Hilda, for Kobe
Steamer Castalia for Liverpool
Steamer Lindenfels for Hamburg.

S S Hilda:—The Lloyd T Company's steamer Hilda arrived in harbour yesterday from Trieste, with a general cargo.

S S Tottori Maru:—The N Y K steamer Tottori Maru, arrived in harbour yesterday from Kobe with a general cargo and passengers.

S S Nalgora:—The B I S N Company's steamer Nalgora, will sail to-day from Bombay harbour for Rangoon, with a general cargo.

S S Barjora:—The B I S N Company's steamer Barjora, will sail to-day from Bombay harbour for Busreh, with a general cargo and passengers.

S S Clan Ogilvy:—The L Edward Ltd steamer Clan Ogilvy, will sail to-day from Bombay harbour for Antwerp, with a general cargo.

S S Forthbank:—The F F Campbell Company's steamer Forthbank, will sail today from Bombay harbour for Calcutta with same bottom cargo.

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3 Queda Karachi 19/2 M M & Co.
5 Hilda, Yokohama 18/2 L T & Mg.
7 Clan Ogilvy, Antwerp, 18-2, L Edward Ltd.
9 Kenya, Karachi 18-2 M M & Co.
10 Tamatsu Maru Kobe 25/2 O S Kaisha.
12 Borneo Maru, Yokohama, 20-2, O S Kaisha.
13 Dumana, NF, NF, M M & Co.
14 Khandalla Durban 25/2 M M and Co.
15 Aquileia, Genoa, 24-2, L T & M I.
16 War Field, Hull, 21-2, M M & Co.

VICTORIA DOCK.
1 Heinau Maru, Rangoon, 20-2, Scindia S N Co.
2 Garbeta Calcutta 20/2 M M & Co.
3 Barjora, P'Gulf, 18-2, M M & Co.
4 Varsova Busrah 20/2 M M and Co.
5 Sydney Maru Kobe 20/2 M M & Co.
6 City of Salford, Karachi 19/2 K Noxon & Co.
9 Nalgora, Colombo 18/2 M M & Co.
10-11 Kohinoor Tuticorin, N F T Morrison & Co.
12-13 Delhi, Colombo, 17-2, L Edwards.

PRINCE'S DOCK.
C/R Oosteappelle Malabar Coast, 20/2 Merchant S N Co.
F Nawab, Rangoon, 19-2 T Morrison & Co.
G Janaki Malabar Coast 17/2 Malabar S S Co.
H Padma, Karachi 18/2 S Hassum & Co.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.
FROM LONDON
Kaiser-i-Hind 20-2-31 P and O S N Co.
Mooltan 27-2-31 P and O S N Co.
FROM LIVERPOOL.
Tuscania, 2-5-31, G T Co.
City of Calcutta, 20-2-31, K N Co.
Clan Macintosh, 17-2-31 J F Co.
FROM OSLO.
Japan, 21-3-31, L Edward.
FROM NEW YORK.
City of Oran 27-2-31, F F Campbell & Co.
City of Durby, 8-2-31, F F Campbell Co.
City of Canton, 22-2-31 F F Compbell Co.
Wilscox, 3-2-31, L Edward Ltd.
Franconia, 9-2-31, Lourists.
Resolute, 10-2-31 Lourists.
Silverpire, 17-2-31, L Edward Ltd.
FROM TRIESTE.
Gange, 19-2-31, L T Co.
Hilda, 17-2-31 L T Co.
FROM CHINA AND JAPAN PORTS.
Kidderpore 24-2-31, P O S N Co.
Yamagata Maru, 19-2-31, N Y Kaisha.
Sinyo Maru, 15-2-31, O S Kaisha.
Meiko Maru, 18-2-31 O S Kaisha.
Shunko Maru, 24-2-21 O S Kaisha.
FROM AUSTRALIA.
Naldera, 27-2-31, P & O S N Co.
FROM DURBAN.
Karapara 28-2-31 M M and Co.

SAILING DATES OF STEAMERS FOR LONDON.
Viceroy of India, 21-2-3', P and O S N Co.
FOR PLYMOUTH.
Warfield N F M M and Co.
Kenya, NF, M M & Co.
FOR PERSIAN GULF.
Varsova 20-2-31 M M & Co.
FOR LIVERPOOL
Castalia N F, G T Co.
FOR HULL.
City of Salford, NF, J F Co.
FOR HAMBURG.
Lindenfels N F L Edward Ltd
FOR KOBE.
Sydney Maru NF M M & Co.
Borneo Maru NF O S Kaisha.
Tamatsu Maru N F O S Kaisha.
Hilda N F L T Co.
Zottori Maru N F N Y Kaisha
FOR CALCUTTA.
Subadar, NF, M M Co.
Kohinoor NF, M M Co.
FOR DURBAN.
Khandalla, NF, M M & Co.
FOR RANGOON.
Nawab, NF, T M and Co.
FOR JEDDAH.
Rezwani, NF, T M & Co.

STEAMERS FIXED.
FOR LONDON
Viceroy of India P and O S Co.
FOR PLYMOUTH
Warfield M M and Co
FOR LIVERPOOL
Castalia G T O
FOR HULL.
City of Salford J F Co.
FOR CHINA AND JAPAN PORTS.
Sydney Maru M M & Co.
Tamatsu Maru O S Kaisha
Borneo Maru O S Kaisha.
Hilda L T C
Zottori Maru N Y Kaisha
FOR HAMBURG.
Lindenfels L Edward Ltd.
FOR BUSREH.
Varsova M M & Co.
FOR RANGOON.
Nawab, T M and Co.
FOR CALCUTTA.
Subadar T M Co.
Kohinoor T M Co.
FOR JEDDAH.
Rahmani T M & Co.
Rizwani T M & Co.
FOR DURBAN.
Ellora M M and Co.

GENERAL LANDING DATE.
Delhi 16-2-31
Comorin 16-2-31
Strudsholu 16-2-31
Parvati 16-2-31
Ahmedi 16-2-31
Padma 16-2-31
Barjora 16-2-31
Varsova 16-2-31
Nitravati 16-2-31

IMPORTS
Bombay, Feb. 17.

S S Yselkirk Agents L Edward Ltd from Hamburg:—310 bundles steel sheets; 90 bundles steel squares; 242 bundles logs; 300 bundles steel; 64 bundles copper wire; 1139 bundles tubes; 50 cases vegetable products; 50 cases aloes; 109 cases lamps; 85 cases lamp globes; 150 cases pencils; 254 cases slates; 55 cases beer; 325 caes milk; 45 cases screws; 30 cases camphor powder; 101 cases cardboards; 30 cases wine; 800 cases spirits; 50 cases medicine; 63 cases paper; 113 cases glass wire; 115 cases wood pulp boards; 143 cases plywood; 82 ams colour; 715 drums chemicals; 463 cases spelter; 500 bags potato flour;

From Bremen:—37 bundles tubes; 530 bundles nails; 100 bundles glassware; 265 cases beer; 90 cases chemicals.

From Antwerp:—194 cases dog spikes; 82 cases brandy; 69 cases playing cards, 80 cases starch; 30 cases pins; 210 cases chocolates; 200 cases chalk; 50 cases earthenware; 800 cases vegetable products; 494 cases glassware; 250 kegs lead; 699 bundles tubes; 57 bundles steel cutting; 575 bundles steel joists; 400 bundles steel bars; 883 bundles steel angles; 157 bundles rounds; 11367 bundles steel hoops; 60 bundles steel rods; 809 coils wire; 340 coils tires; 280 coils tiles; 460 coases nails; 3425 bundles steel sheets; 200 bundles copper sheets; 264 bundles zinc sheets.

From Rotterdam:—118 cases straw boards; 120 cases dextrine; 60 cases formaline; 150 cases barytes; 1769 cases beer; 60 cases gin; 1500 cases asphalt; 161 cases silk yarn; 130 cases vegetable oil; 203 cases pencils; 560 cases bolts and nuts; 100 cases whiting; 177 cases schanapps; 87 cases cheese; 1266 bags sugar; 200 bags caraway; 720 cases farina; 350 cases starch; 455 casks chemicals; 613 casks paint; 530 casks dyes paste; 1300 casks dyes dry;

From Port Said:—50 bales cotton;

From Messina:—120 cases primuce stoves.

EXPORTS
Bombay Feb. 17.

S S Viceroy of India for London:—1 bale woollen carpets M M and Co; 3 bales woollen carpets Cox and Kings Ltd; 4 bales woollen carpets D F Ismailoff; 7 bales animal skin A Abdulla and Co; 11 bales animal skin L Hassam; 10 bales animal skin A Dadabhai and Co; 11 bales animal skin M Nissim; 24 bales animal skin A E Blumenthal; 5 bales animal skin C G Merchant; 16 bales animal skin H Jeewan.

For Marseilles:—6000 cwts groundnut kernels K M Nathoo; 1400 cwts castor seed Ralli Bros; 125 bales cotton raw Volkart Bros.

For New York:—1 bale woollen carpets M M and Co.

S S Warfield for London:—3000 cwts groundnut cakes Steel Bros; 2000 cwts groundnut cakes H V Oomerbhoy.

For Dunkirk:—100 bales cotton fly M Mafatlal and Co; 680 bales cotton raw Volkart Bros; 55 bales cotton raw Textile Products Ltd; 110 bales cotton raw B Cursondas and Co.; 300 cwts mustard seed Volkart Bros.

For Havre:—200 cwts mustard seed Volkart Bros; 203 cwts mustard seed T S Thadani and Sons. 11400 bales cotton raw Volkart Bros; 378 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros;

S S Castalia for Liverpool:—4 bales wool raw C Lister and Co; 31 bales wool raw M Motilal; 57 bales wool raw M Nissim; 60 bales wool raw L Hassam; 2964 cwts groundnut cakes Ralli Bros; 100 cwts myrabollams C Jivanlal and Co; 300 bales cotton raw Patel Cotton Co; 148 bales wool raw D Sassoon and Co; 100 bales cotton thread waste M Mafatlal and Co; 60 bales cotton fly M Narottam & Co; 17 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros.

For Manchester:—9000 cwts groundnuts Ralli Bros; 25 bales cotton fly M Narottamdas and Co; 4 bales cotton thread waste M Narottamdas and Co.

For Glasgow:—1976 cwts linseed oil cakes Ralli Bros; 50 bales cotton yarn Swadeshi Mills Co.

For Barcelona:—1000 cwts castor seed Ralli Bros; 300 cwts myrabollams C Jivanlal and Co.

For Manchester:—45 cwts castor oil Gujarat Oil Mill Mfg Co; 1000 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros; 50 bales cotton raw Anglo Siame Corporation.

For Marseilles:—210 cwts gum olibonum A A H Mavji and Co.

For Piraeus:—35 cwts gum olibanum A A H Mavji and Co.

For Solonica:—60 cwts gum olibanum A A H Mavji and Co.

For Varna:—55 bales cotton yarn Swadeshi Mills Co.

For New York:—4 bales kid skins D Abraham and Sons.

S S City of Salford for Barcelona:—300 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros.

S S Lindenfels for Hamburg:—200 cwts cassein Indian Produce Expert Co; 12000 cwts groundnut oil cakes H V Oomerbhoy; 566 bales cotton raw K Devchand & Co; 48 cwts poppy seed B Ardeshir; 40 cwts buffalo pickers N A Goria and Sons.

For Antwerp:—1000 tons manganese ore Cox and Kings Ltd; 28 bales wool raw Shamjimal.

For Hamburg:—110 bales cotton raw B Cursondas and Co; 165 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

For Rotterdam:—2000 cwts groundnut oil cakes H Ramji and Co; 14000 cwts groundnut oil cakes H V Oomerbhoy.

For Bilbo:—50 cases casings dry Shamjimal.

S S Aquileia for Genoa:—4000 cwts linseed K Devchand and Co; 1000 cwts castor seed K Devchand and Co; 220 bales cotton raw Textile Products Ltd; 110 bales cotton raw Patel Cotton Co

S S Clan Ogilvy for Antwerp:—550 bales cotton raw K Devchand and Co; 110 bales cotton raw C and Thackersey Ltd.

For Ghnet:—385 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

S S Borneo Maru for Osaka:—700 bales cotton raw Volkart Bros.

For Kobe:—600 bales cotton raw Volkart Bros; 300 bales cotton raw Breul and Co; 1500 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros.

For Shanghai:—500 bales cotton raw Ralli Bros.

For Nagasaki:—150 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

For Yokkaichi:—200 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

For Nagoya:—400 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

S S Sydney Maru for Nagasaki:—150 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

For Nagoya:—800 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

For Yokkaichi:—600 bales cotton raw G K Kaisha Ltd.

ALL-INDIA COTTON CROP.
Fourth Forecast of 1930-31

Estimated Area of Cotton in acres:—	
1930-31	23,531,000
Percentage increase (plus) or decrease (—) of above figure on the revised estimate at this date last year	—6 p.c.
Estimated Yield of Cotton in bales of 400 lbs. net.—	
1930-31	4,836,000
Percentage increase (plus) or decrease (—) of above figure on the revised estimate at this date last year	—2 p.c.

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JUPITER GENERAL
has a net work of Agencies throughout the country
J7

REGD. NO. B. 1065

The Bombay Chronicle

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA IN 1913.

JUPITER GENERAL
has claim settling Agents throughout the world
J8

BOMBAY: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1931

Huge Landslide In Railway Earnings.

—:o:—

DEFICIT EXCEEDS FIVE CRORES

Raid On Reserves To Cover Up Losses And Contribution

REDUCED AMENITIES AND INCREASED GOODS RATES

The Railway Budget was presented on Tuesday by Sir George Rainy in the Assembly and the Hon. Mr. Russell in the Council of State. It is a story of all-round fall both in passenger and goods traffic. The total loss on all lines including strategic amounts to 512 lakhs, and consequently to meet contribution to general revenues of 574 lakhs, 1,086 lakhs will have to be taken from reserves.

The prospects for 1931-32 are not bright and again there should be a draw from the Railway reserves. Capital programme is rigidly restricted and there is a threat of increase in certain railway rates. Passenger fares are left alone, but they will have to content themselves with reduced railway amenities.

Budget At A Glance.

—:o:—

(IN LAKHS OF RUPEES)

	1929-30 (Actuals)	1930-31 (Revised)	1931-32 (Budget)
Receipts	1,03,16	95,33	1,01,102
Expenditure	97,25	98,26	97,85
Loss or Gain	pl.5,91	—2,93	pl.3,17
Strategic-lines	—1,87	—2,19	—1,96
Net Results	pl.404	—512	pl,121

Presenting the Railway Budget for 1931-32 in the Council of State, the Hon. Mr. T. G. Russell said:—

I need only refer briefly to the results of 1929-30—these are already generally known. I confess that when I presented the budget estimate last year I was more optimistic than events proved to have been justified. Our weekly earnings had just shown indications of improving and I anticipated that we should have a net gain of 526 lakhs from all lines, commercial and strategic, and that to meet our contribution to general revenues it would be necessary to withdraw only 86 lakhs from our reserves. But the spirit was short lived and instead of this our net gain was only 404 lakhs which entailed a withdrawal of 208 lakhs from our reserves, reducing them to 16.34 lakhs. The main reasons for our revenues failing to come up to expectations were the world trade depression, and the strike on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The position of our depression fund is, however, more cheerful, and as a result of our transactions we were able to increase this from 11-12 crores to approximately 12-14 crores.

ALL-ROUND FALL IN TRAFFIC.

Next we come to the current year. When last year at this time we framed our estimate of receipts—as we then thought on a conservative basis—we expected to have a net gain of 608 lakhs which would have sufficed to pay the fixed contribution of 574 lakhs to general revenues and give us a small surplus of 34 lakhs to place to our reserves. We were again, I confess, too optimistic. At the time the figures were placed before the Legislature there was little sign that the general economic depression and the civil disobedience movement would develop to the extent which they have, and we assumed that we could expect though not a bumper year, at least a year of normal or just below normal traffic, and it is indeed tantalising that the two factors, which I have mentioned, should have interfered with what, considering the wonderful crops which India has produced this year, should have been a year of marked prosperity for the railways. But we must face the facts, gloomy though they may appear to be, and the position is that instead of having a small surplus to put to reserves we shall not merely be unable to pay our contribution to the general revenues but shall also have to draw on our reserves to the extent of about 3 crores to pay our interest charges. In more detail the position is that against a budget estimate of 106 crores 11 lakhs we now estimate our gross traffic receipts for commercial lines at 93 crores 60 lakhs. This estimate has, of course, to be made before the results of two of the heaviest months of traffic are known, but I am afraid I cannot hold out hopes that there will be any increase in the figure of earnings estimated. I have already stated what we consider to have been the main reasons for the falling off in our traffic, but the Council will expect me to give some details of how these factors affected the position. The fall in the cost of agricultural products with its consequent effect on earning capacity has restricted the ability of large sections of the population to indulge in railway travelling as freely as usual, with the result that the reductions in passenger fares, which we made 2 or 3 years ago with the object of encouraging more travel, and incidentally increasing our revenues have not had the desired effect and have actually reduced our net earnings. The actual number of passengers carried during the first 7 months of the financial year is 23 millions lower than carried during the same period of the preceding year.

As regards goods traffic, there has been a falling off in the amount of carriage of almost all commodities. The only commodity of any importance, which shows a substantial increase, is wheat, and of this commodity we carried 272 thousand tons more in the first 7 months of this year than in the preceding year.

SAVING IN WORKING EXPENSES.

Let us now turn to the slightly more cheerful side of the picture—working expenses. Last year we budgeted for working expenses 68 crores 9 lakhs. We now estimate that our working expenses for the current year will be 65 crores 13 lakhs, or a net saving on our budget estimate of 2.96 lakhs. Admittedly, 84 lakhs of this saving is due to a fortuitous adjustment between the depreciation fund and revenue, but the remainder 2 crores 12 lakhs is all real reduction. For this reduction railway administrations must be given full credit. It could not have been achieved without very strenuous efforts on the part of all railway staff. Our critics will, of course, say that reduced traffic must mean reduced working expenses. This is quite correct, but what they forget is that working expenses do not fall and cannot fall, in the same ratio as a reduction in traffic. Actually only from 25 to 40 per cent. of the cost of running a railway is dependent on the amount of traffic moved. In addition, this year we have had to operate and maintain over 300 miles of new lines. We have had to take steps to engage additional staff in order to give effect to the Hours of Employment Regulations which are now being brought into force on State-managed Railways. We have improved the scales of wages of the lower paid men on three of the State-managed Railways as a result of the investigation which was promised last year. I think, therefore, that railways can claim that they have done their best to meet the present emergency. I may say that I have lately been reading Directors' Reports on railways in various parts of the world; many of these must make most depressing reading to their shareholders, but I think a perusal of them would probably make quite cheerful reading to Hon. Members as they would then realise that the position of Indian Railways is at least no worse than many railways in other parts of the world and is in fact better than many.

Having confessed to having been too great an optimist in forecasting the earnings of railways durnig the past two years I admit that I approach the task of making an estimate for the year 1931-32 with a good deal of temerity. We have also assumed that there will be a slight improvement in trade, and we estimate our gross traffic receipts from commercial lines for the year 1931-32 at 99-1/2 crores, or about 6 crores higher than our revised estimate for this year. In making this estimate we have included an amount of from 1-1/2 to 2 crores for minor alterations of rates and fares. My predecessors, Sir Clement Hindley and Sir Austen Hadow, when they presented their Budgets of two or three years back, were in the happy position of being able to announce popular measures, such as reductions in rates and fares. I regret, as I have mentioned, that I am in an unhappy position of having to announce that it will be essential to increase certain of our rates, but I can assure the Council that any changes which we make will be done with due regard to the trade of the country and care will be taken not to impose rates which will press too hardly on any particular section of the community. We have recently been pressed to make a general reduction in the rates for agricultural products. We have gone into the question in great detail and are convinced that in the present state of world overproduction no decrease, with its consequent loss to railways, can possibly be made up by increased traffic, but I can assure the Council that all railways are alive to the position and are carefully watching the movement of agricultural products, and if there are signs that a reduction in rates on any particular commodity will stimulate traffic this will be considered. As examples of this, rates for wheat to Karachi and rates for cotton seed to Bombay have been reduced, and by a special arrangement with the Punjab Government rates for wheat from the Punjab to Calcutta have also been temporarily reduced. It remains to be seen whether these reductions will have the desired effect. Apart altogether from the railway position, a reduction in rates which does not lead to an increase of traffic, can be of little benefit to the ryot, the man whom it is desired to benefit.

NO LUXURIES FOR TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

Now I must turn to our estimate of the working expenses for the current year. Here again there are considerable difficulties in making an accurate forecast, though these difficulties are nothing like as great as in the case of forecasting our earnings. Our budget estimate of ordinary working expenses for the year 1931-32 we place at 105 lakhs below our revised estimate for the current year; but, as I have said before, this year's saving has been increased by an unexpected windfall of 84 lakhs from the Depreciation Fund. Therefore, if we are correct in our estimate the reduction amounts to close on 2 crores rupees. To get this reduction over a year in which railways have made special efforts to save, will, it is realised, mean unremitting attention on behalf of every railway administration and on the part of every member of the staff. The task is made more difficult as additional expenditure in certain directions will be unavoidable. Additional staff must be engaged to give effect to the new Hours of Employment Regulations, and the full expense of the recent increases in the wages of the lower paid staff will only be felt next year. There will also be the cost of maintaining and operating nearly 900 miles of new lines which we expect to be opened during this and next year—lines

(Continued on page 8.)

BRACKEN SNUBBLED AGAIN

—:o:—

Interpellations In Commons

"MR. BENN HAS NOTHING TO ADD"

LONDON, Feb. 16.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Frederick Hall asked whether Mahatma Gandhi had promised to abandon Civil Disobedience on certain conditions, whether the conditions were acceptable to the Government and whether in the meantime, Civil Disobedience had been resumed.

Mr. Benn said that he had nothing to add to the statements which had appeared in the press.

Mr. Bracken asked: Are we to understand that Mahatma Gandhi has been allowed to break the law in any respect whatever?

Mr. Benn replied: Mr. Bracken must understand whatever he is capable of understanding.

Replying to Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Benn said "I understand that there will be an interview between the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi."

Mr. Freeman asked what was attitude of the Congress towards the Round Table Conference proposals.

Mr. Benn said he was able to add nothing to what had appeared in the press.

EARL WINTERTON IN FORM.

Mr. Benn informed Earl Winterton that the notifications declaring the Congress Working Committee unlawful were withdrawn last month. Earl Winterton asked when the Congress Working Committee ceased to be illegal.

Mr. Benn replied: When notifications were withdrawn.

Earl Winterton asked how the Working Committee's attitude had differed.

Mr. Benn asked for notice.

Earl Winterton asked Mr. Benn to obtain information as certain members desired to raise the matter before Easter.

Mr. Benn suggested putting down a question.

BURMESE REBELLION.

Mr. Benn informed Earl Winterton that the main outbreak in Burma had been dealt with, but still there was considerable number of rebels in the forest had broken up into small gangs. They were being dealt with as systematically as possible. It appeared uncertain whether the leader Saya San was alive or dead.

In the House of Commons, Commander Kenworthy asked whether, as facilities had been granted to the Dutch aeroplanes to fly with mails across India, similar facilities had been granted to British machines to fly over India en route to Burma and Australia.

Mr. Wedgwood Benn replied that the Dutch services did not receive subsidy from the Government of India. The latter had not received application for facilities on similar terms from a British Company.

Commander Kenworthy asked what steps had been taken to ensure that British aeroplanes would be permitted to fly across India.

Mr. Benn replied that that was totally a different question.

MR. BRACKEN TOO LATE!

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bracken asked whether the Premier would give early opportunity for discussing safeguards to be inserted in Indian Federal Constitution. The Premier pointed out that full debate on the Round Table Conference had occurred on January 26. He did not think that any useful purpose would be served by further discussion at present.

Mr. Bracken asked a supplementary question whether it would not be in public interest to make a statement regarding safeguards now as no categorical statement regarding them was made on January 26.

The Premier replied in negative.—Reuter.

TOWARDS PEACE IN INDUSTRY

—:o:—

Premier To Meet Employers And Workers

LONDON, Feb. 17.

The House of Commons has agreed to the financial resolution to extend the borrowing powers of the Unemployment Fund from 70 million sterling, which amount is almost exhausted to 90 million sterling.

TO MEET THE PREMIER

Mr. MacDonald has invited the National Federation of Employers Organisations and the General Council of Trade Union Congress to meet him separately on 19th February to survey the general industrial situation with a view to emphasising the national need of maintaining peace in industry. Discussions will relate to the general outlook rather than to particular question such as wages.—Reuter.

MR. LLOYD-GEORGE TO RESIGN ?

—:o:—

Plans For Liberal-Labour Coalition

LONDON, Feb. 14.

It is freely rumoured in the Lobby that Mr. Lloyd George is contemplating an early resignation of the leadership of the Liberal party, with a view to a rapprochement with the Labour party in order to bring about the formation of a coalition with a probable life of at least two years.

Mr. Lloyd George, it is said, realises that he is most unpopular with the rank and file of the Liberals who would prefer Sir John Simon to take over the remnants of his party.

The Liberal leader, it is rumoured has designs on the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, from which Mr. Philip Snowden would thankfully depart owing to his unpopularity amongst the Labour members.—"C. and M. Gazette" Cable.

KING ALFONSO PRAYS

—:o:—

All For A Ministry

LONDON Feb. 16.

Madrid.—In the grim Escorial Palace, King Alfonso spent the afternoon praying at his mother's tomb, while Sanchez, Guerra plodded on an unceasing round of visits to potential ministerial colleagues, several of whom are actually behind prison bars. Count Romanones has definitely promised the support of the Liberal Party, but the result of consultations is not expected to be known to-day. Guerra in an interview to-night declared that he was relying on the support of all upholders of the constitution. He wanted a form of Government in which all sections, even Socialists, would be represented.—Reuter.

G. P. Office's Big Haul

—:o:—

LONDON, Feb. 13.

The General Post Office has seized numbers of letters and packages containing tickets or money of would-be competitors in Irish Hospitals Grand National sweepstake. Officials deny that methods of discovery of letters include X-raying.—Reuter.

SURAT DAILY STOPS PUBLICATION

—:o:—

Sequel To Demand Of Security

SURAT, Feb. 17.

A security of Rs. 2,000 has been demanded from the publisher and printer of the 'Hindu', a local daily as well as a weekly under the Indian Press and Unauthorised News Sheets and Newspapers Ordinance No. 10. The 'Hindu' has decided to cease publication and not to pay security.—A. P.

VIGOROUS PICKETING OF CUSTOMS HOUSE

—:o:—

WOMEN VOLUNTEERS INJURED.

Not A Single License-Holder Gets Entry.

The Old Custom House was beseiged by a large number of Desh Sevikas and volunteers on Tuesday worning which attracted a large number of people who came there to witness the vigorous picketing carried on by about 200 Sevikas and a similar number of volunteers. The Collector of Bombay, it appears, issued a notice upon the toddy and liquor license holders calling upon them to pay certain fees for the ensuing year 1931-32. They were told to reply by 17th February between 10-30 a.m. and 12 noon.

STRONG PICKETING.

The Congress leaders, having come to know of this notice, arranged for a strong picketing, so as to prevent the licensees from going inside the Customs House with their considered reply. About 300 Desh Sevikas and 500 volunteers headed by Shriyuts Nagindas T. Master, Soorji Vallabhdas, K. M. Munshi, Mrs. Captain and others went at 10 a.m. at the Old Customs House and prevented the licensees getting in.

At first, a cordon of ten women was made, but this was broken by a Sergeant assisted by a few constables. In the struggle, Shrimati Bhanumati C. Dalal and six other women were injured. Immediately other pickets rushed to the spot and attempted to form a cordon and received injuries at the hands of the police. The leaders then placed a strong cordon of both ladies men volunteers with the result that the way to the Customs House was entirely blocked, and not a single licensee succeeded in geting inside. As noon approached, the police withdrew and subsequently the Desh Sevikas and volunteers also retired the time of submitting the reply by the licensees to the Custom Collector having expired.

The practice of disposing of the licenses by public auction has been discontinued for the past three or four years and has been replaced by a fixed fee determined by the Government. In this case the Collector enquired whether the licensees were willing to renew their licenses on certain fixed fees and were asked to reply by noon on 17th February.

VANARS PICKET GAMBLERS.

More Volunteers Jailed.

(From A Correspondent.)

SURAT, Feb. 16.

A fair is celebrated every year on the bank of a river that flows by the village of Palsana in the taluka of Pardi. Gambling is the chief source of amusement at such fairs. The Vanersena of this taluka decided this year to arrange a peaceful picketing over the various kinds of gambling. But the Police would not allow this. The Jamadar asked all the vaners to quit the place and give up picketing. The vaners refused to agree to it and were abused by the jamadar. It is alleged he caned these innocent children who were peacefully picketing to stop a business—wretched in its very roots. A Vaner has got the swelling of his cheek due to the thrashing given to him. Five finger-prints are clearly marked by the swelling. The Vaners that were caned had also swellings on their bodies. Some Vaners who were detained in the lock-up were released later on.

A Parsi of Vesu has opened a booth in which he freely sells his toddy. Smt. Shantaben from Surat who pickets there is abused by the shopkeeper and is threatened with sound beating. As usual she pays no heed to his abuses or threats.

COTTON SOCIETIES.

Three cotton group societies of peasants from Olpad taluka have stopped functioning in consideration to the present struggle.

The number of volunteers going to jail from Surat District is increasing by the every day. The Independence week of Chikhali taluka has contributed a considerable number to this number. The total number is now 849.

IN GHATA.

The village of Ghata in Bardoli taluka has passed a resolution to the effect that not a pie should be paid as land tax and that no body should go to gather cotton till the matter is looked into by a committee whose decision will be final. The stoppage of collecting of cotton is due to a few peasants who paid up their tax while they were caught red-handed.

LADY "DICTATOR" ARRESTED.

Mrs. Vilasika Chandravadan Mehta succeeded Sjt. Engineer who was arrested from the procession on Motilal "Shradh" day. The meeting then was conducted by the next "Dictator", Smt. Vilasikaben. The next morning saw her in the lock-up for her speech she delivered for nearly 20 minutes the previous afternoon. Sjt. Narasimbhai the "Dictator" of Jalalpur, is now in the lock-up.

MOTILAL DAY AT SAUGOR

—:o:—

A Silent Procession.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

SAUGOR, Feb. 16.

In accordance with the suggestions given by Mahatma Gandhi, and in pursuance of the declaration made by the present Lady 'dictator' of the local Dt. Congress Committee, Saugor observed a general and a complete 'Hartal' yesterday.

Inspite of the rough and cloudy weather, all the "Prabhat Pheris" assembled early morning punctually at 8, in the Azad Maidan, and the days work started with the salutation of the National Flag. Under the leadership of Mrs. Yamu Tai, at about 1-30 p.m. a big silent procession of almost all the influential and educated people, participating and consisting of men, women and children, started from the Congress Office, and its numbers swelled as it wended its way through the principal roads in the city. Solemn silence was noticed everywhere as the procession continued its march, and bare-headed people were seen standing the whole route. Finally it terminated at Chakraghat, where a crowded meeting was held at 3 p.m. and the drafted "declaration" was repeated while all standing.

The noteworthy and remarkable feature of yesterday's programme was the "Vanar Sena" with its boys and girls, dressed in Khaddar uniforms. The credit of this is due to untiring efforts of Messrs. A. G. Sheory, and Vishvanath the Captain.

ARMED DACOITY IN AHMEDABAD VILLAGE

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AHMEDABAD, February 16.
(BY MAIL.)

A band of dacoits armed with rifles, dharias, etc., raided the village of Bhatera at dead of night. They attacked the house of a Bania whom they severely belaboured.

A Garesia youth opposed the dacoits with a lathi in his hand, but he was overpowered. The dacoits belaboured several other persons.

Meantime a drum was beaten and before the people from surrounding villages could assemble the dacoits took to their heels.—A. P.

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